WINTER
2005

Middlebury
MAGAZINE

Though he's a familiar face on campus, the community is just getting to know

Ron Liebowitz

as president

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Cover photograph by Dennis Curran
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Leave It to Cleaver

A remarkable Middlebury senior continues to amaze.

"DID YOU SEE THAT CATCH?"

It was a crisp fall afternoon at Middlebury's Youngman Field, and Tom Cleaver '05 had just brought the crowd at Alumni Stadium to its feet with a remarkable one-handed grab of a Mike Keenan '05 pass. Under heavy pressure from the Bates rush, Keenan seemed to be throwing the ball away when he lofted the pigskin 20 yards down field, toward the far sideline. Cleaver—Keenan's friend and favorite target—had been blanketed by a Bates defender, and the savvy quarterback appeared to do the wise thing in throwing the ball out-of-bounds. Yet somehow Cleaver managed to elevate over the Bobcat defender, snare the pass with one hand, and jab a foot down inbounds at the Bates 6-yard line.

The catch had left the crowd—including the College's president—in delighted disbelief. "Seriously," Ron Liebowitz asked. "Did you see that catch?" I was standing with Liebowitz and athletic director Russ Reilly at the opposite end of the field, but that hadn't stopped us from getting a great view of the acrobatic reception. "That kid is just unbelievable," Reilly said, turning to me. "You should really do a piece on him."

I reminded him that I had already written about Cleaver ("Undaunted Courage," winter 2003); in fact it was the first piece I wrote for the magazine when I arrived at Middlebury a little more than two years ago. "That's right," he replied, not missing a beat. "Well, what about a follow-up story?"

Reilly had a point. If ever a story deserved a follow-up, it was this one. When I met Tom Cleaver in the fall of 2002, he was just six months into remission from chronic myelogenous leukemia, a rare form of cancer that affects bone marrow. He had returned to Middlebury that fall healthy and optimistic—just one year after lying prone on the practice field, nearly blind in one eye (the first major sign that he was seriously ill). After a round of chemotherapy, he had started taking an experimental drug called Gleevec that seemed to be keeping the cancer at bay. And while a bone marrow transplant was (and still is) the only known "cure" for CML, he was willing to give the new drug a shot as long as he felt fine. Two years later, Cleaver is still on Gleevec, still in remission, and—as the first two paragraphs of this column indicate—still feeling fine.

In his final collegiate game, against Tufts University, Cleaver caught nine passes for 128 yards, and finished his Middlebury career with school records for most catches in a season (62), most yards receiving in a season (943), and most yards receiving in a career (1,974). He led the NESCAC in both receptions and yards per game, and was a first-team, all-conference selection for the second consecutive year. Even more remarkable: every catch made and every yard gained has come *since* he was diagnosed with cancer.

In December, he was one of 15 student-athletes to be named a 2004 National Scholar Athlete by the National Football Foundation and the College Hall of Fame, receiving an $18,000 postgraduate fellowship.

He traveled to New York City for the awards dinner, a fete at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, and shared a dais with such college football superstars as the University of Georgia's David Green and Virginia Tech's Bryan Randall. Though Green would finish his career as the Southeastern Conference's all-time leading passer, and Randall would lead his team to the Sugar Bowl, it was the dean's list student and political science major from Middlebury who was tapped by his gridiron peers to deliver the acceptance speech on behalf of the group.

So, in answer to Ron Liebowitz's question at the top of this column: I saw Cleaver's catch—I've been watching him in amazement for two years—and I can't wait to see what he does next. —*MJ*

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Photograph of Matt Jennings by Bob Handelman

Dream Upon a Dream

I enjoyed Tim Johnson's fall magazine story, "The Foreign Student." Sounds like things have not changed much since I attended the Japanese School in 1986, although the sports seem to be more organized now. When I was there, we played pick-up Ultimate Frisbee with the Russian School.

Shortly after we all signed the "Pledge," someone told us to watch out for the day when we saw our first dream in Japanese. Mine came during Week 8. To this day, I actually still remember pieces of it, not to mention my surprise and elation when I woke up the next morning.

Shortly after finishing the course, I moved to Japan and am still here. Over the course of the 20 years since I first took Japanese 101 in 1984, it has been interesting to see that my progress in Japanese always seems to come in sudden, discontinuous, and abrupt steps. After seeming to make no progress at all for weeks or months (in the beginning) or years (now), you suddenly wake up one morning and find your Japanese has overnight become dramatically better than it was before. Since you would typically think that language progress would be more of a steady, linear progression, I have always wondered what lay behind this discontinuous, steplike progress and whether it is peculiar to certain languages, or indeed a normal phenomenon for everyone.

Robert A. Cornell Jr., Japanese '86
Tokyo, Japan

Of Stress and Snores

What a flood of memories came back to me while reading the article, "The Foreign Student," by Tim Johnson in your fall issue! I took the "Pledge" the summer of 1969 at the French School and the pressure was on! I absolutely had to make it through that summer with grades of B or better in order to attend the master's program in France. I had already given up my job and my apartment to attend the summer program. I had to succeed, and the threat of expulsion from the program for a slip of the tongue in English loomed large over us all.

LIVE IT, LEARN IT
The fall issue's feature on the summer Language Schools, "The Foreign Student," struck a chord with a number of readers.

One of the most momentous events in history occurred that warm July: the landing on the moon. We all watched in a small TV room and listened to those famous words: "The Eagle has landed!" None of us could say a thing! It must have been the quietest room in the entire U.S.! Finally a Frenchman said: "Vive l'Amérique" to our collective relief. All summer in the middle of the night I told my snoring roommate: "You're blowing up, you're blowing up" instead of "You're snoring" because I mixed up the first letter of the verb "ronfler" (to snore) for "gonfler" (to blow up). I couldn't understand why she kept right on snoring. Although the stress seemed unbearable at times, I learned more French in two months than I had learned throughout high school and college. The following year in France, completing my master's was, comparatively, a breeze!

Barbara Filing Almstead, M.A. French '70
Devon, Pennsylvania

The Year of Languages

I enjoyed the article "The Foreign Student," hot out of the mailbox, from the fall 2004 issue of *Middlebury Magazine.* Having attended the Language Schools twice in the mid-seventies, German level one and the Spanish graduate school, I could feel for the two types of experiences that Mr. Johnson had with his disparate degrees of language proficiency, as well as the reactions that he received from various students and teachers, at different times during the summer.

I smiled at the elevation of the language pledge signing to legendary ceremony. Indeed, a story floated around that a boy from the Spanish School had fallen in love with a girl from the Russian School, and when off campus disobeying the language pledge, they were unfortunate victims in a car accident. The next morning at the hospital, a get well card in Spanish was there for the boy, but the notice of expulsion was coldly placed on the Russian student's side table. Thus, the idea continued that the Russians were more serious and the Spaniards were more emotional and had more fun (akin to the Portuguese experience described in the article).

I also remember Roger Peel telling us at orientation in Dana Hall, that we would be like porcupines that summer. Porcupines? We needed each other's warmth to survive and had to get close to each other, but not too close because our quills would become entangled. He also told us that if we did fall in love in another language, beware because we might not be in love anymore when we reverted back to English at the end of the

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summer. I agree with the idea that students at Middlebury learn more language in their immersion setting than do students in other programs in the U.S. and abroad.

Languages during the school year were not of the same intensity. Of the extracurricular activities I fondly remember, I can point to the Château's 50th anniversary, when Stephen Freeman cut the cake amid jugglers and troubadours, and to the Spanish plays in the "Zoo," including *La Celestina* and *Bodas de Sangre*. In the dining room at the "Chât" you could order food in a dozen different languages, eat family style from the cuisine of Eleanore, the best cook on campus!

Finally, I would like to encourage all the linguaphiles out there (and I know you abound) to do something special for 2005: The Year of Languages (whether with your family, at a school nearby, or the community where you live). Make it a point to tell others about the benefits of being multilingual. You are never too old to learn a language! For more ideas on how to promote this national initiative, started by ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages), go to *www.yearoflanguages.org*.

Christi Rentsch de Moraga '76
Marlborough, Connecticut

Short Shrift

It's unfortunate that Tim Johnson's remarks contrasting the Defense Language Institute in Monterey with the summer Language Schools at Middlebury were given short shrift in his account ("The Foreign Student," fall 2004). The need to establish which methodology produces the most effective learning is more than merely determining bragging rights. Public schools across the country are facing increasing pressure to teach English to growing numbers of foreign-born students in order to meet the provisions of the federal No Child Left Behind Act. As a result, whatever conclusions can be drawn about the relative merits of both approaches can be enormously helpful.

I saw firsthand the need for evidence-based policy during the 28 years that I

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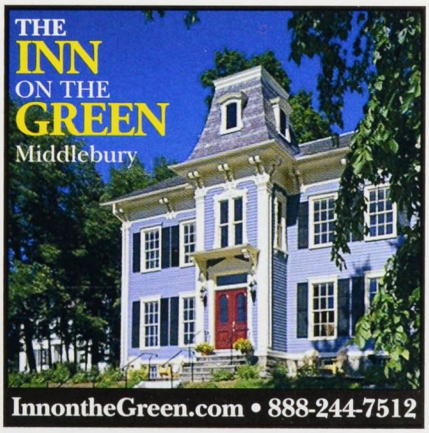

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taught English at the same high school in the Los Angeles Unified School District, the nation's second largest. To a large extent, anecdotes constituted the basis for decisions made about training teachers and teaching students. Whoever argued loudest and longest usually prevailed. By the time the truth eventually emerged, it was too late to remedy the damage done to all concerned.

Walt Gardner '57
Los Angeles, California

I Don't Feel Well

In "The Life Aquatic" (fall 2004), Ashley Padgett's otherwise admiring (and admirable) account of the character and work of Sarah Fangman gets off to a jarring start by telling us that Fangman "feels somewhat nauseous."

To my no doubt antiquated ear, the appropriate word would be "nauseated." I'm relying on my 1969 edition of *The American Heritage Dictionary*, in which the following note appears at the end of the definition of "nauseous": "employment

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of *nauseous* in the sense of *nauseated* (experiencing nausea) is considered unacceptable by 88 percent of the Usage Panel."

I'm well aware that word meanings do shift over time. But I doubt that a 2004 Usage Panel would give majority approval to the use of "nauseous" as a synonym for "nauseated."

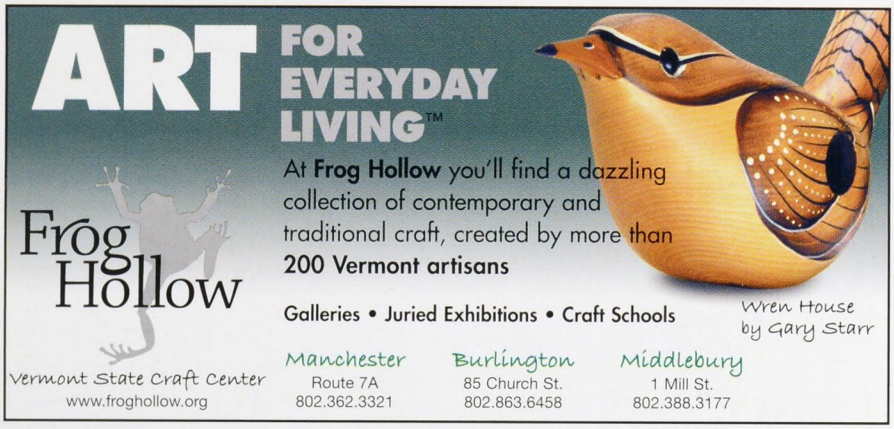
Paul Davis '44
Princeton, New Jersey

Editors' Note: While we feel sick to our stomachs at the thought of making such a mistake, we're compelled to point out that Merriam-Webster's Dictionary *states that it's acceptable to use "nauseous" when meaning "affected with nausea." The dictionary states: "Current evidence shows these facts: nauseous is most frequently used to mean physically affected with nausea, usually after a linking verb such as feel or become." Though this explanation may not be palatable for some, we stand by our usage.*

Recollections of W. Storrs Lee '28

Your obituary of W. Storrs Lee (fall 2004) was greatly appreciated. He interviewed me (and presumably was responsible for my admission) to the Class of 1954. Perhaps a further note is worth recording.

In September of 1950, we had become enmeshed in the Korean War. There was talk of the draft and who would be exempt. Our understanding was



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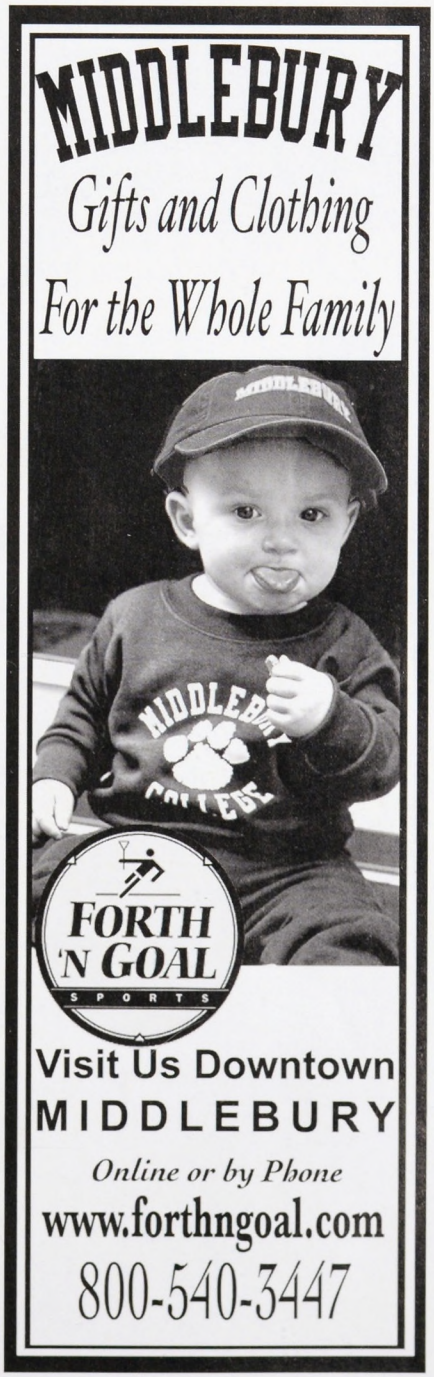

that freshmen in the upper half of their class would be exempt. Those in the lower half were draftable. This was terrible news for the men, as at that time the women far outshone the men in grades. Only a few men would make it into the top half.

Dean Lee, ever the historical scholar, unearthed the fact that there were two colleges at Middlebury: Middlebury College and the Women's College at Middlebury. This meant that half the men could be in the top half! This is my recollection, and it is bolstered by no facts. Any contribution by real historians would be welcome.

Hart Peterson '54
Scituate, Massachusetts

Editors' Note: According to the College Archives, talk of a "Women's College at Middlebury" surfaced in the 1920s; it was carried as far as an architectural plan designed by York and Sawyer of New York in 1931. Had the Great Depression not intervened, there's a reasonable chance it would have been built at its proposed site where Forest, Carr, and Battell Halls are today. Although no separate physical plant was created for women, the 1950 catalogue lists a Dean of Men (Storrs Lee), and a Dean of Women (Mary Williams). Furthermore, in the list of those awarded degrees in the previous year, there are separate lists of degrees awarded to men and to women. (The comprehensive fee was different for women and men, as well.) So, while there were never two separate schools, there was a tradition of a women's college and a men's college.

New Areas of Study

Re: the letter "Sacrifice for a Few?" The College is suited to give important education to all citizens—including serving members of the armed forces. A Peace Institute could offer the following areas of study:

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apply to combatants facing U.S. troops.

Language Schools could provide total immersion training in the language of the area where our soldiers are sent. Perhaps this would avoid the problems of having, for example, a non-Arabic-speaking occupation force.

Geography and environmental studies could provide in-depth reviews of the environment and society and culture of the area where preventive war is being fought. They could also look at the relationship of the American economy resource consumption and foreign policy.

Political science, history, and religion/ethics could debate and review the notion of "preventive war," the UN Charter, the U.S. Constitution, the Judeo-Christian ethic, and the religions of the area of conflict.

Jon Berger '67
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Letters Policy

Letters addressing topics discussed in the magazine are given priority, though they may be edited for brevity or clarity. On any given subject we will print letters that address that subject, and then in the next issue, letters that respond to the first letters. After that, we will move on to new subjects. Send letters to: Middlebury Magazine, Meeker House, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753. E-mail: middmag@middlebury.edu.

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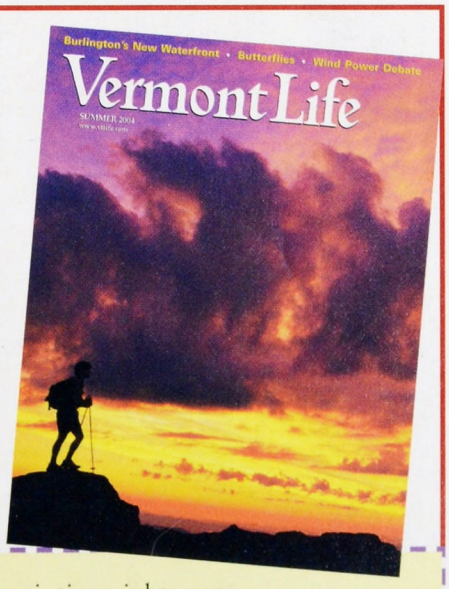

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Albert Bitici '06 ("Nature's Fireworks," p. 11) is a sophomore at Middlebury.

Marc Covert ("Nature's Detective" p. 44) is a writer in Portland, Oregon.

Dennis Curran ("Fresh Tracks," p. 18, "Assigned Seating," p. 20, "A Presidency Begins," p. 25, and "7 Up," p. 32) is a photographer in Waitsfield, Vermont.

Kathleen Dooher ("Murder She Wrote," p. 38) is a photographer in Somerville, Massachusetts. Her work has appeared in *Boston Magazine, Fast Company,* and *Technology Review.*

Sally West Johnson '72 ("Midd's Think Tank," p. 14 and "Assigned Seating," p. 20) lives in Middlebury and is a frequent *Magazine* contributor.

Photographer **Casey Kelbaugh '96** ("Nature's Detective," p. 44) has contributed to the *Boston Globe,* the *New York Sun,* and *Seattle Magazine.*

Blair Kloman, M.A. English '94 ("Dark Dreams, Indeed," p. 46) is a frequent *Magazine* contributor. She lives in Ripton, Vermont.

Bill McKibben ("Fresh Tracks," p. 18) is a Scholar in Residence in Environmental Studies at Middlebury. He is a frequent contributor to a variety of publications, including *Harper's, Atlantic Monthly, The New York Review of Books,* and *Outside.* An avid nordic skier, he lives in Ripton, Vermont.

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Photographer **Tad Merrick** ("Northern Exposure," p. 24) works in Middlebury.

Christopher Merrill '79 ("The Sound of Silence," p. 80) is an award-winning poet, translator, literary critic, and journalist. His book, *Things of the Hidden God: Journey to the Holy Mountain,* will be published in February.

Rachel Morton ("Murder She Wrote," p. 38) edited *Middlebury Magazine* from 1995–2002. She wrote "Running with Dean" in the winter 2004 issue.

Rodica Prato ("The Sound of Silence," p. 80) is an illustrator in New York City.

Photographer **Michael Sipe** ("Brand New Day," p. 12) is a frequent contributor to *Middlebury Magazine.*

Sarah Tuff '95 ("7 Up," p. 32) is a frequent *Magazine* contributor. Her stories have appeared in *National Geographic Adventure, Men's Journal, Skiing,* and *Adventure Sports.*

Never let truth get in the way of a good story.

Middlebury Magazine
is pleased to announce the 3rd Annual
Middlebury Magazine Fiction Contest

Current Middlebury students and all Middlebury alumni (undergraduate or graduate) are invited to submit unpublished manuscripts of 3,000 words or fewer. The first-place selection winner, as chosen by a panel of judges, will receive $300, and the story will be published in the summer magazine.

- Manuscripts must be typed, double-spaced, and include a cover sheet with story title, author's name, address, and phone number.
- Submissions may be e-mailed to mjenning@middlebury.edu or mailed to *Middlebury Magazine,* Att: Fiction Contest, Meeker House, Middlebury, VT 05753

Deadline: April 1, 2005

12 COLLEGE STREET
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24 NORTHERN EXPOSURE

Uphill Downhill

NATURE'S FIREWORKS
Northern lights bathe the sky above Mead Chapel on an early winter evening. Photograph by Albert Bitici '06

Brand New Day

ON A COOL, GRAY AUTUMN AFTERNOON IN EARLY OCTOBER, Ronald D. Liebowitz was inaugurated the 16th president of Middlebury College, becoming only the third Middlebury faculty member to rise to the top administrative position in the institution's history. Though he had taken over the job on July 1, the geography professor formally joined the pantheon of Middlebury presidents (three of whom—James Armstrong, Olin Robison, and John M. McCardell Jr.—shared the dais with him) on a day rich in fall atmosphere but with a hint of winter, and steeped in tradition but with an eye toward the future.

"I had this thought that a college presidential inauguration is sort of the academic equivalent of Simchat Torah," said guest speaker David Stameshkin, referring to the holiday when Jews read the last words of Deuteronomy and the first words of Genesis. "The College and its constituencies conclude one presidency and joyously begin again with a new leader, who, while standing on the shoulders of those who have come before, sees new ways of proceeding, presents new ideas, opens the College's opportunities to new people, and leads the College to new heights of excellence."

The ceremony got under way around 11:00 A.M. as a procession of Middlebury faculty, administrators, and trustees—along with representatives from many colleges and universities—marched along Old Stone Row and down a freshly paved walkway to the inauguration site in front of the College's new library. Amid red, orange, and yellow leaves that blew through the air and swirled to the ground, representatives from the greater Middlebury community formally welcomed Liebowitz to his new post.

The student-body president recalled an intense conversation in his office; a faculty colleague offered best wishes to one of the faculty's own; alumni and staff representatives, a trustee, directors from Bread Loaf, the Language Schools dean, area dignitaries (including Vermont governor Jim Douglas '72), and the president of Williams College all offered best wishes. Then the directors from the summer Language Schools greeted the president in German, French, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Japanese, Chinese, Arabic, and Portuguese.

THE 16TH PRESIDENT
The presidential inauguration of Ronald D. Liebowitz was an occasion steeped in tradition—but with an eye toward the future.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MICHAEL SIPE

David Stameshkin, a former Middlebury professor and the author of a two-volume history of the College, followed with a humorous and insightful speech that placed the inauguration in context. In 20 quick minutes, he took the audience on a wild historical ride, explaining how Middlebury came to be what it is today.

Starting with the College's founding in 1800, he highlighted the introduction of coeducation 80 years later, the diversification of the student body and the curriculum during the past two centuries, the establishment of the Language Schools and the Bread Loaf School of English, before concluding with warm wishes for the new president.

"Today, as we celebrate the inauguration of a new president, Ronald David Liebowitz, Middlebury, in a sense, begins anew," Stameshkin said. "May President Liebowitz build upon the great work of past administrations and find new ways to engage the College's friends and supporters here and around the world, so that it may remain a strong, independent college. May President Liebowitz find new ways to diversify the College community to ensure an exciting and creative learning environment. And may President Liebowitz find new ways to offer students outstanding educational experiences in languages and in all areas of the curriculum."

The wind had picked up slightly by the time Board of Trustees Chair Frederick M. Fritz '68 officially invested Liebowitz with the Middlebury presidency, but the rain that had been threatening most of the morning kept its distance, as a passel of angry-looking, bruise-colored storm clouds hung over the Green Mountains, miles away. The three former Middlebury presidents then handed, from one to the other, a pewter medallion on a sterling silver chain, which John McCardell placed around the neck of the newest officeholder. With the medallion coming to rest on his robed chest, Liebowitz turned to receive a standing ovation from an audience of several hundred people. And as Middlebury's president took the podium, he acknowledged the warm ovation with a broad smile and several mouthed "thank-yous" before launching into his inaugural address.

A scholar of geography, Liebowitz naturally chose to focus on the constancy of place in Middlebury's history and how place—including its human characteristics—has been integral in the development and evolution of Middlebury College. Yet Liebowitz emphasized an important caveat: "Place is a necessary, but not sufficient, condition to explain Middlebury's particular tradition of excellence."

"In fact," he continued, "the most enduring and renowned programs at the College have resulted from exceptional human ingenuity and creativity." It was imagination, vision, and persuasiveness—in combination with Middlebury's setting—that led to the creation of the Language Schools, the Bread Loaf School of English and Writers' Conference, and the environmental studies major he said.

"A less obvious lesson that emerges . . . is that each of the exceptional programs described here was based on the assumption that intensive human interaction is essential for learning," he added, citing the immersion experience of the Language Schools, mentorship at Bread Loaf, and an approach to undergraduate teaching that fosters intense student-faculty interaction.

Liebowitz spoke from experience as a geographer and faculty member as he examined the history and culture of Middlebury, but his parting message, the action item from his inaugural address, gave a clear indication of what he hopes to achieve as the College's president.

"Our charge is two-fold," he said. "To be true to that impressive history, we must, first, preserve those parts of the Middlebury culture that encourage creativity and foster innovation . . . to be true to Middlebury's history and culture, we must also commit ourselves to being very clear about what we do here, and why we've been doing it so well for more than two centuries. What we do best is give students the opportunity to work directly with faculty—dedicated teachers who have mastered specific bodies of knowledge, who are mentors and motivators, and who see their role as participating in a four-year process of opening the hearts and minds of their students and preparing them for a lifetime of learning."

Another standing ovation followed the conclusion of his address, and with storm clouds still hovering over the Greens, the assembled crowd listened respectfully to the Middlebury Chamber singers perform Leonard Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms,* bowed their heads for Associate Chaplain Ira Schiffer's benediction, and proudly sang along to the words of the Alma Mater. On stage, with Gamaliel Painter's cane gripped firmly in his left hand and the presidential medallion dangling from his neck, the College's 16th president, Ronald D. Liebowitz, sang along proudly, too.

—*Matt Jennings*

Did You Know?

THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDALLION presented to Ronald Liebowitz at his inauguration in October is the second medallion to be worn by a Middlebury president for ceremonial occasions. The first medallion was presented to Samuel S. Stratton upon his inauguration as president of the College in 1943. That medallion was subsequently passed along to presidential successors James Armstrong, Olin Robison, Timothy Light, and John McCardell, and their respective names were engraved on its back.

With the addition of McCardell's name in 1993, there was no room left on the medallion to add a successor. So Middlebury's 15th president and his wife, Bonnie, commissioned local artisans Danforth Pewter (owned by Judi and Fred Danforth '72) to craft a new medallion—with the names of all 16 College presidents engraved on the back (and room for more)—and donated it to the College. The original medallion is now housed in the College archives.

Midd's Think Tank

WHILE THE PRESIDENTIAL FETE unfolded across campus, a more somber meeting of the minds was taking place at the Rohatyn Center for International Affairs. A conference on the privatization of American national security was cohosted by Middlebury's Rohatyn Center and Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs as part of an ongoing project, launched at Princeton last May.

The question at hand was what to do about regulating the growing phenomenon of subcontracting national security services to private companies, a reality that snapped sharply into focus when some private contractors were implicated in the prisoner abuse at Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison. Conference participants ran the gamut from academics and theoreticians to representatives of the private military companies and the nongovernmental organizations, leading inevitably to some disconnect between the high-minded world of theory and the gritty reality of day-to-day operations.

If the uniform code of military justice does not apply to private contractors, what rules are they following?

There were, however, some points of consensus, the first being that war as we know it now is not war as we used to know it, and that, more often than not, the role of the U.S. military is to keep the peace among warring factions. The other point of agreement was that the privatization movement, which began in this country as far back as the Hessians' role in the American Revolution, is here to stay and will only grow over time. The question conference participants wrestled with was how to control it so that the ugliness at Abu Ghraib remains a horrifying exception rather than becoming a routine occurrence.

In a nutshell, the issue is this: virtually all American forays into the world involve a triangular effort of the U.S. troops who are empowered to use force, the NGOs that are the recognized experts on humanitarian relief, and the private contractors who are paid to provide a wide array of services—from peeling potatoes and cleaning latrines to guarding prisoners.

But as Deborah Avant, a political scientist at George Washington University, pointed out, this new paradigm of a service triad leaves gaping holes in the system. For instance, if the uniform code of military justice does not apply to private contractors, what rules are they following and who is to enforce them? And if indeed the use of contractors allows governments to undertake military action, at what cost does this reduced transparency come?

As to the problem of accountability, Felix Rohatyn '49, former ambassador to France and president of Rohatyn Associates LLC, argued for the application of business principles, suggesting that the system of rules and sanctions that governs the securities market could be brought to bear on the private military sector.

There seemed to be no question in anyone's mind, however, as to the value of private contractors in a world where the need for a speedy response often outpaces the ability of a bureaucracy to keep up. So how is the need reconciled with the problems?

Allison Stanger, director of the Rohatyn Center, promised that the discussion was not over. The conference hosts plan to publish a report of the findings. Stanger also said that a conference on the privatization of diplomacy and foreign aid, cosponsored by the Brookings Institute, is scheduled for sometime in 2005.

—Sally West Johnson '72

Quote/Unquote

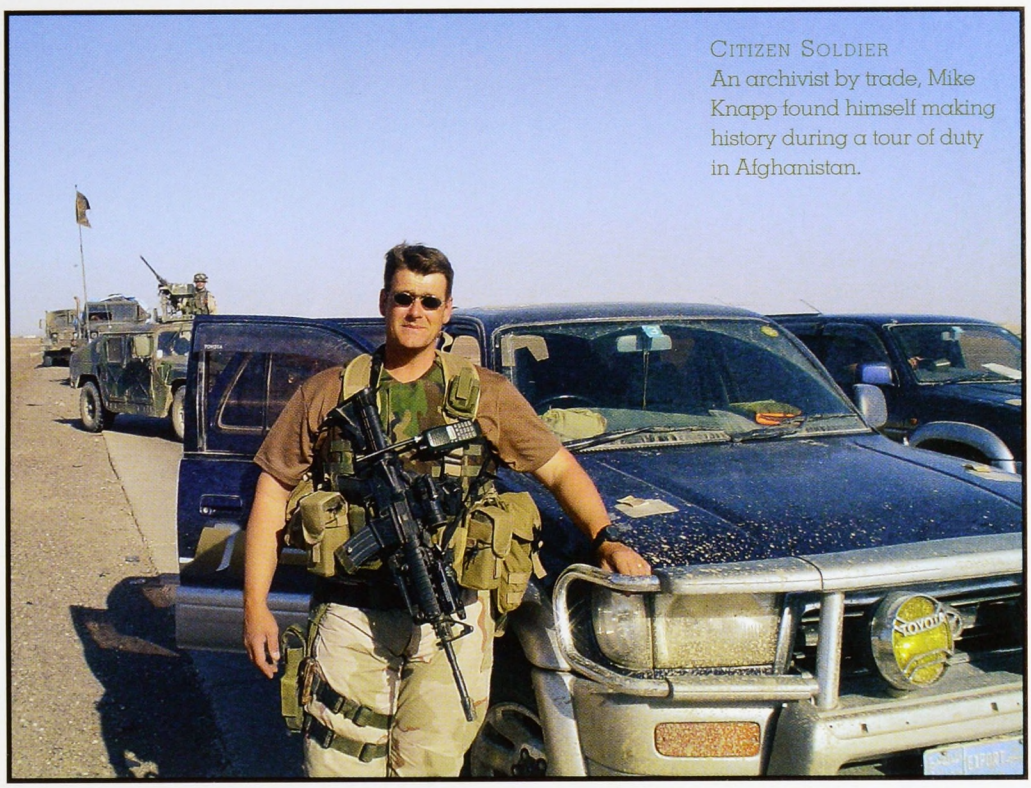
"A student once called him 'Professor Churchill,' to which he replied, 'I'm sorry, I don't know who he is. My name is Bob.'"

—Maija Cheung '05, speaking at a memorial service for geography professor Bob Churchill

Five Questions For...

Mike Knapp, Associate Archivist

A noncommissioned officer in the Task Force Mountain Battalion of the Vermont National Guard, Knapp recently returned from an eight-month tour of duty in Afghanistan. Among other tasks, Knapp helped train the officer corps of Afghanistan's fledgling military.



CITIZEN SOLDIER
An archivist by trade, Mike Knapp found himself making history during a tour of duty in Afghanistan.

1. How did you end up in Afghanistan?

I had been in the ROTC for four years during college and when we moved to Vermont 11 years ago, I joined the Reserves. Our unit is the only specifically mountain-equipped Reserve unit in the Army, so when the U.S. went into Afghanistan in 2002, we all thought that we were going to go, but we were never called up. When it happened a year later, we were shocked. I went to a normal planning meeting, and I was told to prepare to mobilize. My daughters were seven and eight years old when I left, which was a pretty good age. They were old enough to sort of understand but young enough not to be scared.

2. What was your mission in Afghanistan?

We took over a Special Forces mission, which was great. After the new Afghan army left the training camp, they needed to be trained in the field. We were embedded training teams of 15 guys assigned to 400 Afghan troops. I worked with the signal company and one other American. I got to see the entire country—mountains, valleys, cities—it was a marvelous experience. I kept thinking it was the typical Middlebury study abroad immersion experience—on the Army side. And the history was fantastic! It was kind of lost on some of my colleagues, but I kept saying "This is *great!*"

3. Did you often feel unsafe?

There were only a half a dozen times when I was very nervous. I saw more dead people due to traffic accidents than just about anything else, and the only time I shot my weapon was on the practice range. But I was in Kabul when four Canadians and a British man were killed. It makes you realize how arbitrary it is. The warlords were mainly fighting each other, though. Everybody over there knows that when you start shooting at the Americans then the planes come in, and nobody wanted our planes after them.

4. What was it like coming back to Middlebury?

The first thing I noticed was how green everything was. I had spent six months in a place with no precipitation at all, but I hadn't realized how brown it was till I got home.

I initially spent a lot of time collapsed on the couch —I had been running on low-grade exhaustion for at least six months. . . . It felt weird to come home and not have to worry about always carrying two weapons.

For a long time, so many people would come up to me and thank me. It was touching, but I began to feel like it wasn't deserved. It's sort of a 15-minutes-of-fame feeling; I'm not sure I've done enough to deserve this.

5. Would you do it again?

I have very mixed feelings about this whole "War on Terror." How can you fight a concept? But with Afghanistan, we had an obligation, so I have no real problems with it. It is impossible to take a country that has never known democracy and turn it into a working democracy overnight, but I think we have made a difference. I would be much more ready [to do another tour] if I were 19 and single. It is very different when you have a family.

I feel all my aches and pains now, and I was physically in the best shape I had been in for years when I went, so I think this is probably my swan song. And because of the mission we had—a Special Forces mission—I couldn't top that.

—Lindsey Whitton '05

Money Matters

MIDDLEBURY'S ENDOWMENT has pushed past $700 million, thanks to an impressive 22.7 percent rate of return for the 2004 fiscal year. The one-year return ranks as one of the highest one-year returns among all U.S. endowment funds. According to a 2004 study by the National Association of College and University Business Officers, endowments with a market value between $500 million and $1 billion had returns of 17.9 percent, 4.3 percent, and 4.9 percent for the one, three, and five years ending June 30, 2004. Middlebury's returns for the same periods were 22.7 percent, 6.5 percent, and 6.6 percent.

As welcome as the 2004 rate is, however, Middlebury's treasurer and vice president for administration, Bob Huth, counsels patience and perspective when assessing the impact of the 2004 return on the College's fiscal landscape. During the past five years, the College has averaged a 6.5 percent return, which is good, Huth says, but it's not large enough for the College to rethink its financial plan. Middlebury often draws around 5 percent from the endowment per year. With an average return of 6.5 percent over the past five fiscal years, this has allowed for a net growth of just over 1 percent.

Go Figure

1

Number of losses by the 2004 Middlebury women's soccer team. The 15-1-3 Panthers were defeated, 2-1, by Wheaton College in the NCAA Sweet 16

2

Consecutive years the Middlebury field hockey team has advanced to the NCAA title game—and lost to Salisbury State University

3

Number of goals scored by the men's soccer team in the final 14:56 of a 4-3 overtime win over Tufts in the NESCAC tournament

4,544

Career passing-yards total for Panther quarterback Mike Keenan '05, a College record

1,974

Career receiving-yards total for Panther receiver Tom Cleaver '05, also a College record

0

Number of losses by the men's and women's ice hockey teams at the conclusion of the fall semester. The men's team entered the winter break with a record of 6-0-1. The women were perfect, sporting an 8-0 record

Faculty Shelf

NINTH GRADER MILLY KAUFMAN SEEMS ILL AT ease in her own skin, not sure where she fits in the world or in her family. Her hands itch when she is uncomfortable, and she's been uncomfortable quite a bit lately—ever since a young refugee named Pablo enrolled in her school. When Pablo and Milly meet for the first time, she notices his interest in her eyes—eyes that resemble others from his home country. This fact plunges Milly into adolescent angst because she is struggling with a secret: she was born in Pablo's country.

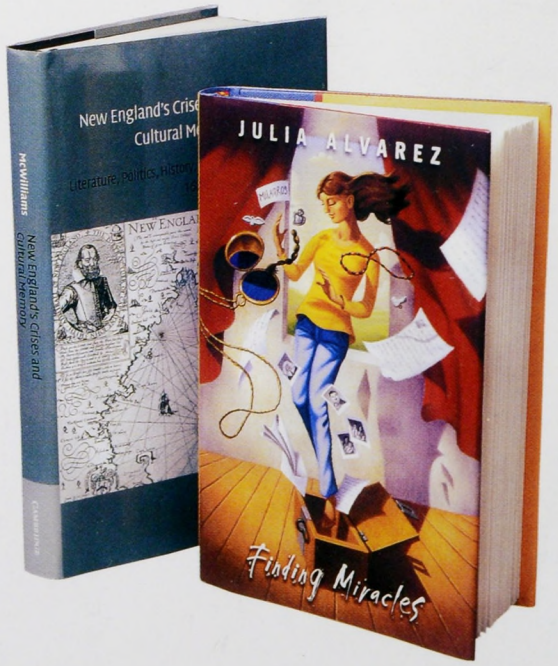
Writer-in-residence JULIA ALVAREZ '71 sensitively portrays the heart and mind of this complex and lovable teenager in *Finding Miracles* (Alfred A. Knopf, 2004). Although written for young adult readers, older people will find the book captivating. It serves up a family complete with eccentricities and traces the path to love and acceptance.

■

During the early decades of the 17th century, many New England colonists starved to death, yet in the epochs that followed, few Americans remembered these hardships. Instead, the bounteous Thanksgiving harvest became the "reality" that took hold. Why this sort of historical reinvention happened and how it changed New England's cultural identity is the subject of *New England's Crises and Cultural Memory* (Cambridge University Press, 2004), by JOHN MCWILLIAMS.

McWilliams, professor of American literature and civilization, explores major crises that occurred in New England over two centuries and discusses how they helped define the region's cultural identity. Among the crises studied are starvation, Indian wars, the Salem witch trials, the Revolution, and slavery. This comprehensive review integrates politics, history, religion, and literature, and considers a range of writings, including Nathaniel Hawthorne, Robert Lowell, and George Bancroft.

—Regan Eberhart



PHOTOGRAPH BY TAD MERRICK

[Syllabus]

Course Ecology

Department Biology

Instructor Sallie Sheldon, Professor of Biology

Course Description How do wood frogs freeze solid and survive? Why do some plants in Vermont create their own heat early in the spring? What determines where species live and whether their populations expand or decrease over time? This course for nonmajors and majors is an introduction to organisms in their environments, including consideration of physiological adaptations, behaviors, and reproductive strategies. We will look at how individuals affect members of their own species and explore the diversity of interactions among species and their role in the organization of communities. We will examine how ecological communities affect and are affected by the physical environment. Why are prairies found in some places and forests in others? Why are natural disasters not always disastrous for ecological communities?

Reading List (Partial)

- Colin R. Townsend, M. Begon and J. L. Harper, *Essentials of Ecology*
- Richard Dawkins, *The Selfish Gene*
- J. A. Pechenik, *A Short Guide to Writing about Biology*

Sheldon Says

It is amazing how much time we need to devote to correcting student misperceptions. The biggest is what "ecology" is. Students expect a course on global climate change, pollution, and the like. Wrong. Ecology is the study of species, species interactions, and how biological communities are formed and maintained.

Ecology is about looking closely at populations. We study interactions among species. Is a population more limited by other members of the same species or by competition with other species? Can we predict when a predator is likely to control the number of prey?

We also examine biological communities. We want to understand the mechanisms that drive species and communities. If we really do understand them, we will be more likely to be able to predict the response to change.

In our ecology labs we enter the field and learn how to collect and analyze data. For two of the labs, students design their own experiments. Each year at least a few of the experiments are completely new—we've never run them before.

Data-Cruncher Ask any one of Sheldon's students about her, and they'll say, "Sallie loves data." When driving a 15-passenger van toward the Bread Loaf campus one afternoon, Sallie suddenly exclaimed, "Out of the last 25 cars we've passed, 10 were white, 10 were gray, and 5 were red. Aren't statistics neat?!"

Snooze Bar

SHHHHHH. THE VENDING MACHINE IS SLEEPING.

All across campus, vending machines are snoozing away . . . that is, until a customer approaches. Then, like a slumbering sentry snapping to attention at the approach of a visitor, the machines spring to life, ready to shoot out Cokes and Sprites to anyone with a dollar in their pocket.

That's because the vending machines on campus have recently been equipped with the environmentally friendly VendingMiser technology. The machines still glow and hum when people are nearby, but as soon as a motion detector senses that the area around each machine is unoccupied, the light turns off and the cooling compressor slows down. This energy-saving initiative will not only save the College about $5,000 on electricity costs every 18 months, but will cut CO^2 emissions in half.

The Environmental Council began researching the initiative in November 2002 by comparing the energy use of soda machines on campuses unequipped with VendingMiser to those with the new technology. The faculty, staff, and students conducting the research used funds from a campus sustainability grant, a portion of the annual $25,000 budget President Emeritus John McCardell reserved for environmental initiatives.

Illustration by Hal Mayforth

Fresh Tracks

Each year, John Rubright transforms the Bread Loaf campus into a nordic wonderland.

By Bill McKibben

Wednesday, 10 A.M., "This is the final exam," John Rubright is saying. "This is what makes me anxious all year. And I do get anxious." Middlebury's Winter Carnival is 48 hours away, and Rubright—as he has for the last 21 years—is in charge of preparing the College's Bread Loaf mountain campus for two straight days of nordic ski racing. Middlebury is always the last stop on the carnival circuit, and the races always double as the Eastern championships. And Rubright is always—well, worried is not the right word. His crew knows how to set up the start and finish, knows where to set up the timing equipment, knows every last detail down to making sure there's an endless supply of hot chocolate for spectators.

He also knows that the best-laid tracks can come to naught. One year, just as the last race was set to start, the temperature soared to 60 degrees, and a raging thunderstorm blew through. "Sometimes you can only do so much; nature is going to deal the cards," Rubright says.

Right at the moment, you couldn't ask for better conditions for a ski race. Weeks of cold have left the snow fast and hard, and as we pass in the College's Pisten Bully grooming machine, we leave a corduroy carpet behind us. "At this temperature it's like velvet. It sets up so nice," he says. But the weather forecast that comes in through the satellite dish above Rubright's waxing bench sounds ominous: temperatures warming into the 40s and staying there for the first day of races on Friday.

And then—sometime on Friday night or Saturday morning—some combination of sleet and rain and ice is due. The forecasters call it "wintry mix," which sounds like something you'd snack on at a Christmas party. But for the ski trails, it might spell real trouble. "There's going to be snow on the ground. The question is, how are we going to groom it? You can't groom when it's too warm, or it will just freeze up rock hard on you. We'll just have to wait and see."

Thursday, 2 P.M., 40 degrees. The sun is shining—shining hard, with a warmth not felt since mid-fall. The sky is a perfect blue, and the racers from around the East have begun to arrive—Dartmouth and UVM in their green suits, Bowdoin in tights decorated with polar bears, even a small Harvard contingent, whose race suits show a map of Massachusetts Avenue climbing from calf to shoulder. All that color, weaving in and around the bright yellow buildings of the Bread Loaf campus. In the summer, it's home to the

Rikert's Groom's Man
For 21 years, John Rubright and his Pisten Bully grooming machine have crafted and cared for Middlebury's first-class nordic ski course.

Photograph by Dennis Curran

School of English and the world-famous Writers' Conference—legacy of Robert Frost, high-powered novelists, eager young artistes perched in Adirondack chairs as they work on their latest stanzas. Come November, however, Rubright and his crew leave their work at the College golf course and decamp up into the mountains, ready to transform the place into its winter guise:

the Carroll and Jane Rikert Ski Touring Center.

This afternoon, Middlebury's team—last year's Eastern champions—knife by on their practice runs with an almost insolent speed and grace; Rubright will wait for them to take off their skis before he fires up the College's Pisten Bully groomer, the almost magical machine that will turn the chewed-up snow into a first-class racecourse.

He's not too worried about Friday's races: they're skate races, which means he'll just have to groom the trails, not set the tracks that classical skiers will need on Saturday. And though the temperature has grown warm enough to soften the snow, it's going to get plenty cold enough for good grooming. "We'll wait until the snow temperature drops down to 26 or 27 degrees," he says. "You can tell it's right when it stops sticking to your boots and starts to crunch instead. Then we'll go out and get to work."

Friday, 10 A.M., 30 degrees. The women open the carnival, in a 5k race that might as well be a sprint. One after another, they fly down the firm tracks, covering the whole distance in less than a quarter-hour. And none faster than the Middlebury women. As coaches Terry Aldrich and Patty Ross look on, their skiers dominate.

The snow couldn't be any better, but the forecast couldn't be any weirder. After a season of endless perfection, with a month where the temperature never got above freezing, it's suddenly starting to sound like New England. A warm front will be "undercutting" an arctic air mass; moisture from the Gulf will hit air from the pole; and depending exactly where you are in latitude and elevation, some of every form of precipitation known to man seems likely to fall.

It's the kind of day when you realize why 21 years of experience is a useful thing. The spectators lining the racecourse are looking at the snow, but Rubright, who has supervised two NCAA championships and visited most of the great nordic centers in the world, is thinking deep down into its layers, almost the way a geologist looks at rock. Every storm and every freeze of the winter is preserved in there, like the strata on the walls of the Grand Canyon. "It snowed this winter before the ground froze, so there's not a frozen base at the bottom," he says. "But that rain we had two weeks ago, it came right before the big freeze, so that's been giving us additional base." All winter, as he's groomed and regroomed the trails, Rubright and his team—primarily Tim Reilly and Jim Benson—have had this weekend in mind. "Every time you pass over it, the pressure creates a little bit of heat, squeezes some moisture out, and allows the snowpack to bond a little better. Not only that, but it pushes the frost down into the snow: in effect, we've been trying to freeze the ground from above." As a result, he says, even if the temperature doesn't drop below freezing tonight, there should be cold percolating up from the bottom of the trail, cold enough to freeze the snow so the groomer can make one last pass. "That's the theory anyway."

The spectators lining the racecourse are looking at the snow, but Rubright is thinking deep down into its layers, almost the way a geologist looks at rock.

Friday, 11 P.M., 36 degrees. The theory seems to be working. The air is still balmy, but the tracks crunch underfoot. Benson is camped out by the fire, resting from several hours in the machine. He hands over the walkie-talkie, and from somewhere far out on the course, Rubright's voice reports that the final tracks for tomorrow's race are being laid. "You can't go more than about two kilometers an hour," Benson says. "Otherwise the walls of the tracks won't set up nice and hard." At that rate, the Pisten Bully should trundle back toward home sometime between two and three in the morning.

Saturday, 11:30 A.M., 36 degrees. The sky is gray, and the front is pushing through. But the men have finished their race and now the women have started theirs, a long ribbon of skiers disappearing up the tracks into the woods. The klister wax on the bottom of their skis grabs the softening snow and propels them on. As far as the grooming crew is concerned, there's nothing more that can be done.

Saturday, 11:34 A.M., 36 degrees. The first raindrops fall.

Bill McKibben is a writer living in Ripton, Vermont.

Education's Paradox

In a liberal arts education, less can be more.

BY PRESIDENT RONALD D. LIEBOWITZ

I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU A CONCERN voiced by students, faculty, and staff in meetings I have hosted this fall in preparation for the strategic planning process that has just begun on campus. The issue has to do with the choices our students make in their academic and cocurricular spheres during their four years at Middlebury. The common concern centers on whether students, in trying to do "too much" while here, are cheating themselves out of the lifelong benefits of a liberal arts education.

A question worth asking in order to assess this concern is whether our students' assumptions about what kind of education will serve them best after Middlebury are flawed, or at best shortsighted. To engage this issue, one must, of course, be clear about the major goal of a liberal arts education, as well as what a liberally educated person looks like when he or she graduates.

A liberal arts education, to those committed to this mode of teaching and learning, is to educate students both broadly and deeply. Educating "broadly" means that students are challenged to engage areas of knowledge previously unknown to them, which opens up new worlds of thinking and imagining, fosters creativity, and allows for connections among what otherwise might appear to be disparate aspects of our human and physical worlds. It means ensuring that students don't simply gravitate to the "tried and true" areas of the curriculum during registration—selecting courses they studied in high school and in which they did well. It means, over a four-year period, opening one's mind by exploring the remarkably rich array of subject matter offered at a place like Middlebury. It means making connections among what were previously unknown areas of inquiry to help one better understand oneself, humanity, and the unknown, and to ignite further one's sense of exploration and yearning to know more.

Educating "deeply" means that students are challenged to immerse themselves in a particular body of knowledge to a level of mastery that allows them to ask important questions about that body of knowledge. It also requires them to gather the information they need to answer those questions, analyze and synthesize the information, articulate the answers clearly both orally and through writing, and understand how the meaning of their findings relates to aspects of their discipline and across other frontiers of knowledge. This depth of study allows one, in the short term, to be an "expert" in a specific area, but that expertise, given how knowledge advances so rapidly these days, is fleeting. More important than mastering a body of knowledge and becoming a temporary expert in the field are the skills students develop in pursuing that subject matter, and then taking those skills and habits of the mind with them, beyond Middlebury.

A liberal arts education should produce liberally educated individuals—individuals who, through the process of engaging new subjects and knowledge and studying a particular body of knowledge in great depth, have developed a clear set of values, learned to synthesize and integrate knowledge, learned about multiple modes of inquiry, and have developed an informed appreciation for the local and the global. They have learned how to think critically, how to pursue answers to complex problems, how to write and speak clearly, and how to view issues from multiple perspectives.

What do these attributes of a liberal arts education mean for Middlebury's academic and cocurricular programs, and how are they related to the concerns raised in our open meetings about "student choices"? With regard to the academic program, it should mean we need to question our students' increasing tendency to choose to pursue double or triple majors, something approximately 25 percent of our students now do. On the surface, pursing multiple majors suggests great academic

PHOTOGRAPH BY DENNIS CURRAN

ambition, something we should applaud. But completing more than one major concentrates a student's studies in two departments (or three for triple majors), thereby eroding a primary goal of a liberal arts education—educating individuals broadly. If students must complete at least 10–14 courses in two or three disciplines to attain their majors, then at least 20–30 of their 34 courses taken at Middlebury are accounted for in a narrow slice of the curriculum. The result is that students are less likely and able to take a critical mass of courses beyond their majors, across the College's 27 academic departments.

Rather than graduating students who have been exposed to a large number of new areas of knowledge, which would enable them to enter their post-college world with the capacity to understand and acquire new perspectives and modes of thinking, this trend toward multiple majors would result in an increasing number of students who were narrowly educated. Students may think this specialization of study will benefit them in the short term as they look to immediately apply their newly acquired knowledge in their chosen careers, but, in fact, it will do the opposite. Globalization in the 21st century means our graduates will face a faster changing world than past generations faced. It will be a world that requires an adaptability and flexibility in thought and perspective like never before, and it will force people in all walks of life to come continually into direct contact with others who hold different perspectives and thought processes. A more broadly educated individual will no doubt be more effective in such an environment than one who is more narrowly educated.

The value of combining breadth and depth in one's college education applies just as powerfully to student choices about cocurricular activities. The concerns raised at the open meetings and lunches question how students are choosing their cocurricular opportunities, and to what end. Faculty see students overengaged in cocurricular activities to the detriment of their studies; staff, especially in student services, note a high level of stress among students because they cannot meet all their obligations; and students have requested that the College consider limiting the days during which faculty could give exams so they could sustain all their activities outside the classroom and feel less stress from the academic program.

But the fundamental issue here is not about resolving the natural tension between academic and cocurricular pursuits which each student should be responsible for learning to address him or herself. The key issue is one of balancing quantity versus quality of participation. In other words, it is not that our students are "too involved" in student organizations, athletic teams, or volunteer activities. It is the *kind* of involvement that I believe is at the heart of the concerns voiced by students, faculty, and staff.

Meaningful participation in student organizations and all cocurricular activities requires substantial time; yet, when students get involved in too many activities, it is impossible to dedicate significant and meaningful time to any one entity. Recruiters to campus, and many chief executive officers of businesses and directors of large nonprofit organizations with whom I have discussed this issue, are consistent in stating what is most important to them when considering whom to hire. They explain that students who show a great commitment to an organization, be it to athletics, the orchestra, theatrical groups, volunteer services, or environmental projects in the community, are far more attractive as potential employees than students who have had limited participation in a large number of activities. They note the necessity of finding students who have learned to work collaboratively. Not surprisingly, they are less interested in students who have dabbled in many activities than in those who have learned the tough lessons of team work.

If there is a culture of "more is better" when it comes to how many majors one completes . . . then we need to question that culture and the values that support it.

I am not suggesting that students should limit their participation on campus to one organization or activity. I am, however, suggesting that students would be well advised to discriminate among the many opportunities they have on campus in order to develop the most valuable skills and make the most of their opportunity to be as well educated as possible.

I believe strongly that the College must play an active role in providing students with practical guidance so they may benefit most from their Middlebury education. They need to hear more about the goals of a liberal arts education and why depth and breadth of study in the academic program are important to the development of the skill sets necessary for meaningful engagement in our world. They need to know why learning the lessons of collaboration and team work through cocurricular activities will enable them to graduate as well-rounded individuals.

If there is a culture of "more is better" when it comes to how many majors one completes or how many cocurricular activities one participates in, then we need to question that culture and the values that support it. As a liberal arts college committed to the development of the full individual, we owe it to our students to engage them on the implications of their choices.

I look forward to engaging this issue as part of the College's strategic planning process. Please send your thoughts on this issue to me at: *officeofthepresident@middlebury.edu.*

Assigned Seating

When is a chair more than a chair? When it's art.

By Sally West Johnson '72

Originally, Chris Howell '05 planned to wire his chair so that it would scream at people as they sat down, but eventually the better angels of his nature took over, and he settled for a more meditative approach to his project. The assignment for Eric Nelson's studio art course, Form and Structure in Sculpture, was to design a chair for "a particular person, a scientific principle, a historical period, a cause, a deeply held belief, or a favorite activity."

Howell's response was a chair with an attached telephone that is hooked up to an answering machine under the seat cushion. He entitled his work *Sit Down, Call In,* and he explains it like this: "The chair is formed to fit the body. It brings sensation to areas of the body we often ignore. The act of sitting initiates a flow of sensory information within the body: texture, support, weight, comfort.

"Our awareness shifts from visual stimulus to the tactile relationship between our posterior and its cradle. *Sit Down, Call In* explores this process of kinesthetic communication by encouraging the viewer to literally place a telephone call to her rear end. A digital answering machine records these conversations, accumulating tactile sensation, body image, and the physical and emotional bond between brain and behind. *Sit Down, Call In* asks viewers to delve into their relationship to their posterior via its most common companion: the chair."

For his part, Nelson, a resident sculptor and professor of studio art, says the chair project is one of his favorites for his intermediate students because it combines fundamental principles of sculpture—form, space, structure, texture, and size—with the technical challenges of transforming a concept into a self-standing, real-world object that can maintain its shape and form. "I use the chair because it's so familiar to us," he explains. "Usually, we see it as a source of comfort, but it can also be as grand as a throne or as functional as the seat of a Conestoga wagon. Everything depends on the context, and I want the students to put this form in a context."

Tyne Pike-Sprenger '05, for instance, discovered that the inherent physical properties of her material dictated the form of the finished piece. She used dried daylily stalks that she collected at first from her mother's garden in West Dover, Vermont, and later from clumps of lilies all over the area; she discovered the mother lode of daylily stalks at the edge of a pond hard by

Restoration Hardware
For Professor Eric Nelson (seated, left), the chair project allows his students—including Tyne Pike-Sprenger, Sydney Atkins, and Chris Howell (left to right)—to find artistic expression in a utilitarian way.

Photograph by Dennis Curran

the 15th hole on the College golf course. Once she had gathered all the stalks, Pike-Sprenger wanted to connect them with wires running along the top and bottom, to create a lounge chair that had a magic-carpet effect with loose, flowing lines.

"The structure was trial and error," she says. "The key was the suppleness of the stalks. I found that if I wet them and left them outdoors overnight, they would have

just the right amount of flexibility." She also discovered a pattern of light and dark striations in the stalks that she used to good effect. But the chair remained a work in progress until the night before the installation opened, when she decided to suspend her chair in midair to accentuate its bird-in-flight form. "My mom is claiming the chair for her new house," says Pike-Sprenger with a rueful laugh, "but I'm afraid it doesn't travel very well."

The 13 chairs, on display in the Pit Space of the Johnson Memorial Building for two weeks in November, were as varied and open to interpretation as the students who designed them—in effect the exhibit served as a Rorschach test for sculptors and viewers alike.

Junior Matt Corrente's chair of lodgepole pines wrapped with twine soared three stories, rising above the Pit Space, climbing past Johnson's main level, and stretching toward the building's skylights; in Corrente's words, the chair was "defying the physical limitations of the space."

Jake Whitcomb '06, on the other hand, remained firmly earth-bound with his solid, squat bench made out of white pine. Whitcomb constructed the bench by using a chainsaw to carve slices from a felled white pine, then fitting the pieces together so that the joints were held together by nothing more than the weight and bulk of the wood. It is the rough cut of the wood, he says, that emphasizes the bench's connection to nature.

Sydney Atkins '05 took the opposite tack, rejecting the natural in favor of the man-made, the rounded, rough forms of wood in favor of the square corners and sharp edges of metal. Atkins's hunt for materials took her at first to the Middlebury town dump, "where I met a guy who was a sign collector. He sent me to the Middlebury Transit Company, where the guys helped me find old street signs and taught me about the history of the signs."

> **"It is shiny, colorful, appealing—and structured almost in the tradition of a vanity chair. And yet it is completely unstable, feeble, useless."**

This was Atkins's first experience working with metal. "It was a huge learning process—I learned about what can be welded and what can't, what has to be bolted," she says. What she ended up with was a park bench made of traffic signs and old road markers, bent to look a little like human forms seated on the bench.

But the best part, she adds, "was the chance to get out into the community and meet all kinds of wonderful people. I have to take a photo of the bench so I can send it to the guys at the transit company to hang on the wall."

In at least one instance, a chair took on a life of its own, refusing to cooperate with the grand plan of its sculptor. Bothered by what she perceives to be a culture of pervasive female beauty, Jean Prendergast '05 was determined to construct a symbol of defiance. Using pages torn from glossy magazines such as *Cosmopolitan* and *Vogue* (which she believes, promote "images of dainty, beautiful, useless females, whose hair, weight, and clothes define them"), Prendergast set out to make a vanity stool that would serve as a mocking symbol of the culture. She turned the pages into papier-mâché, fashioned the stool from the gluey material, and, once it dried, shellacked it to a glossy sheen.

"It is shiny, colorful, appealing—and structured almost in the tradition of a vanity chair," Prendergast says. "And yet it is completely unstable, feeble, useless," she admits. "It can hold no weight; it can be used for nothing other than appearance, and can barely even support itself."

As if to emphasize the point, on an early November afternoon in Johnson, the three-legged stool refused to stand up. "We tried," says Nelson, pointing at the sprawling stool with its legs splayed out around it. "We tried glue, everything we could think of to attach the legs to the seat. Nothing worked. We finally decided it just wasn't meant to stand."

Sally West Johnson '72 is an award-winning writer and frequent contributor to Middlebury Magazine. *She wrote* "The Nature of Nurture" *in the summer 2004 issue.*

On The Campus
Middlebury Vt. 61
MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE, MIDDLEBURY, VT.
AQUARELLS
HEPBURN HALL, MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE,
MIDDLEBURY, VT.
15—The Chateau, Middlebury, Vt.
CHEMISTRY BUILDING, MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE, MIDDLEBUR
Middlebury, Vt. - Main Street
Otter river and Battell Bridge, Middlebury, Vt.

FOREST HALL, MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE, MIDDLEBURY, VT.
"SCENE NEAR MIDDLEBURY, VT."
13—Gifford Hall, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt.
STAR LIBRARY, MIDDLEBURY, VT. 17

Postcards from the Hill

For the past five or six years, Cynthia Pigeon Slater '82 has been collecting postcards that feature the College and the surrounding Middlebury area. The oldest cards date to the early 20th century. Photograph by Tad Merrick

By Matt Jennings ■ Photographs by Dennis Curran

A geography scholar and College insider, Ron Liebowitz is surveying the Middlebury landscape and preparing to chart a course for its future.

A Presidency Begins

It's a few minutes before noon on a beautiful weekend morning in late October, and Ron Liebowitz is standing at the front of Mead Chapel, chatting with a group of parents and students. Moments earlier, some 250 people had given him a standing ovation at the conclusion of his Fall Family Weekend address and, while most of the audience has now scattered for lunch dates or athletic events, several people linger to grab a few more minutes with the College's recently inaugurated 16th president. Though he, too, has a luncheon to attend, Liebowitz wants to hear what people have to say.

"You have to be from New York," a mother from Manhattan says to the president. Liebowitz grins. "Brooklyn … Bensonhurst," he replies. "65th Street and 23rd Avenue, to be precise."

"I knew it," the mother says. "Well, my daughter absolutely loves it here." At which point, you'd expect a busy college president to nod and smile and say something like "That's great, I'm glad to hear it." Judging by the mother's obvious surprise at Liebowitz's response, it appears she had expected that, too. "Fantastic," he says. "What is it about Middlebury that she enjoys?"

And it goes on like this for several more minutes. Liebowitz—standing at the front of Mead Chapel, Gamaliel Painter's cane tucked under his left arm, a bottle of water clutched in his right hand—quizzes the remaining parents about their child's major, their child's adviser, their child's chosen swim stroke (!), until everyone who wanted to speak *to* the president has had the chance to speak *with* the president.

As he exits the chapel and makes his way down the long, descending walkway to his car parked on Old Chapel Drive, Liebowitz is joined by John Berninghausen, the Truscott Professor of Chinese, who is himself a Middlebury parent.

"Ron, that was magnificent," Berninghausen says. "And it was magnificent because you put it all out there, and you were very candid with the parents." For about 90 minutes, Liebowitz had touched on the emerging themes of his young presidency: an emphasis on the "human dimension" of the College; the role of sciences in the 21st-century liberal arts curriculum; the internationalization of the curriculum; the strengthening of Middlebury's academic reputation; and the moral responsibilities of a liberal education. Yet it was his candor, above all else, that seemed to grab the audience's attention.

Q&A
As Liebowitz begins his presidency, historian David Stameshkin asks the most pertinent question: "What does Ron want to do?"

On each issue, he was clear and direct about where he stood, and he stressed that not all of his opinions were shared by his colleagues in the faculty, among the staff, and in the administration—and that was OK. There was room for a difference of opinion. He mentioned that the College would begin a strategic planning process in January that would involve the entire

community. He had already met with a number of academic departments as well as with students and staff in sessions that would help guide the yearlong planning agenda.

Of course, the parents were more focused on the present, and during a rather intense question-and-answer session, Liebowitz deftly handled questions on a variety of issues (increases in tuition, measuring success in the investment in facilities), before closing the program by answering a question about the impact a liberal arts curriculum has on a student's job prospects.

"I hope you will encourage your children to embrace the opportunity to broaden their horizons and to worry less about preprofessionalism," Liebowitz said. "Guide them, rather than

direct them." It is the mode of study that a liberal arts college makes possible—how one studies, more than what one studies—that will have the greater effect on what they do in the world, he argued. And in return for this educational privilege, he added, there is an inherent obligation to give back to society.

Statements such as this one have begun to define the early days of the Liebowitz presidency.

On Leadership

In discussing his philosophy on leadership, Liebowitz explains why he places such a premium on transparency. "Transparency in operations, where the leadership is open about how an institution is being managed, and the constituents of the institution are equally willing to express unfiltered opinions and evaluations of the institution's management, engenders a greater feeling of inclusiveness," he says. And it is this inclusiveness that Liebowitz is after because of his commitment to encouraging creativity and innovation at Middlebury. Inclusiveness is necessary, he believes, for "creating the environment in which new ideas and approaches are offered and shared naturally and frequently. When such new ideas and approaches flow more freely, innovation is more likely to take root, and the institution is less likely to turn its back on the long-term sources of its own success."

Of course it is easier to give unfiltered opinions to a person you already know and trust. Fortunately for Liebowitz's presidency, he is a longtime Middlebury insider. Since he joined the faculty as an assistant professor of geography in 1984, the community has come to know him as a professor (he was appointed full professor of geography in 1993), as an administrator (he served as dean of the faculty from 1993–95, vice president of the College from 1995–97, and as executive vice president and provost since 1997), and now will have the opportunity to get to know him as president.

"When an institution is doing well—and it seems to me that Middlebury has been doing quite well recently—it's intuitive that some sense of continuity in leadership would be a tremendous bonus when selecting a new president," says historian David Stameshkin, author of *The Town's College: Middlebury College, 1800–1915* and *The Strength of the Hills: Middlebury College, 1915–1990*. "The question is: What does Ron want to do?"

From early in his tenure, it has become apparent that what Liebowitz wants to do involves both continuity and change. He has stated clearly that the College will continue to build on its curricular strengths (its "Peaks of Excellence") and press ahead with major ongoing initiatives, such as the implementation of the Commons System. His commitment to continue these programs should come as no surprise; his fingerprints have been all over many of the institution's boldest initiatives.

- **Peaks of Excellence:** As vice president nearly 10 years ago, Liebowitz appointed several peak task forces through which faculty and staff would define how each "Peak" of excellence was to develop. One such task force recommended the creation of the College's international studies major, an imaginative interdisciplinary major—requiring four years of language study, a semester or year of study abroad, and a unique senior seminar—that integrated several independent areas of study into one major; it is now the fourth largest major on campus. A subsequent grant from the Ford Foundation led to the development of a senior seminar program that allows 15 seniors who have studied abroad to engage a major topic in international affairs with two faculty members who bring different disciplinary training, regional expertise, and perspectives to the class. Liebowitz cites this

type of "exceptional learning environment" as an example of what he would like to see elsewhere in the curriculum.

And while the development of specific "Peaks of Excellence" has never been wholly embraced at Middlebury —some feel that if there are peaks there must also be valleys—Liebowitz does not shy away from the 10-year-old initiative, citing strategic advantages the peaks bring to the College. "I believe strongly in playing to one's comparative advantages, and if Middlebury excels in specific areas of the curriculum, and plays to those strengths, the entire College will benefit. From an admissions perspective, the peaks increase our chances of matriculating the very best students interested in these areas of study. Quite often, those excellent students, who come intending to study in one of the Peak areas, major elsewhere, and enrich those other programs."

■ **McCardell Bicentennial Hall:** Around the same time that Liebowitz was helping launch Middlebury's Peaks of Excellence, he was chairing the science planning committee that led to the creation of McCardell Bicentennial Hall. This mammoth, state-of-the-art facility located on the northwest end of campus has been recognized both for its size (at 220,000 square feet, it's one of the largest buildings in Vermont) and for the innovative way in which it was conceived. The concept of a system of generic laboratories and shared, flexible space for the sciences was initially met with skepticism by consultants and architects, yet it proved to be a model for science planning and laboratory design on liberal arts campuses across the country.

"Although it is difficult to argue with those who feel the building is too large—and I happen to agree—nobody can argue with the positive impact it has had on our academic program," Liebowitz says. "The design of our specialized laboratories, which has helped recruit vibrant young faculty in the sciences and allows for superb faculty-student collaborative research, set the standard for undergraduate science buildings. The flexibility of the shared and generic teaching space serves the College very well in the present, and will do so even more in the future, as the way in which we teach science and what exactly we teach are continually—and inevitably—evolving."

■ **Town-Gown:** In the late 1990s, Middlebury tackled a problem that was causing great unease among faculty and staff: a community-wide dearth of child-care options for infants and toddlers. With Liebowitz leading the way, the College sought out early childhood development experts in the community and offered to form a strategic partnership to brainstorm ideas and propose solutions for a situation that affected not only College-affiliated parents, but parents in Addison County.

This collaboration with area child-care centers led to the establishment in 2000 of the College Street Children's Center, a facility that serves the entire Middlebury community (40 percent of the spaces are reserved for children with no College affiliation). "Ron had a really firm grasp of the issues," says Barbara Saunders, codirector of the Mary Johnson Children's Center. "He—and the College—understood that this had to be a community solution, not just a Middlebury College solution. The result is that we were able to fill an urgent need and do so without isolating the College from the town. This small program looks like the rest of the community."

■ **The Commons:** For more than two years following the Board of Trustees' resolution in 1998 to adopt the Commons System, Liebowitz led discussions on how to reshape the residential life system; the resulting plan included decentralizing the dean of students' office and creating Commons-based curricular and cocurricular initiatives.

And while many challenges remain (the infrastructure is only 40 percent complete, and campus reaction remains mixed), Liebowitz is committed to finding the best way to complete the system while addressing student, faculty, and staff concerns, as well as financial and human resource constraints.

Yet, for all the continuity that Liebowitz brings to the presidency, he's also made it known that he intends to steer the College in new directions. From what he has been saying in speeches and meetings over the course of several months, it is evident that there is no greater priority than his determination to shift Middlebury's focus from infrastructure to what he calls "the human dimension."

"I firmly believe that everything we do is based on the assumption that intense human interaction is essential for learning," he says. "What we do best is give students the opportunity to work directly with faculty—a faculty that sees its role as participating in a four-year process of opening the minds of its students and preparing them for a lifetime of learning."

Developing the human side of Middlebury is a central theme of the planning process, which began in January. One of the 12 task forces is examining how the College can reduce the bureaucratic demands on faculty so they may focus their time and energy on teaching, scholarship, advising, and mentoring their students. Another task force will propose faculty and staff development programs to ensure those working at the College are current in their fields so they may contribute their skills to making Middlebury's educational atmosphere richer and more rewarding for the entire community. And a third task force will focus on institutional change and culture, and will seek ways to create the conditions in which creative and entrepreneurial thinking by all employees is cultivated, all in support of enhancing the educational atmosphere on campus.

"If we can't offer the benefits of 'the human dimension,' then why would excellent students choose Middlebury over larger private institutions that have greater resources and reputations but do not offer such close student-faculty learning opportunities?" Liebowitz asks rhetorically. "Why would students choose Middlebury over the finest public schools that don't promise close

The Liebowitz File

Ronald D. Liebowitz

Wife: Jessica K. Liebowitz

Son: David Heschel Liebowitz, 10 months

Education:
Bucknell University, B.A. in economics and geography (1979); Columbia University, M.A. and Ph.D. in geography (1980, 1985); Middlebury College, Russian School (1981, 1983)

Books

Russian and Eastern Europe After Communism: The Search for New Political, Economic, and Security Systems, ed. with Michael Kraus. Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press.

Perestroika and East-West Economic Relations: Prospects for the 1990s, ed. with Michael Kraus. New York: New York University Press.

Gorbachev's "New Thinking": Prospects for Joint Economic Ventures, ed. Cambridge: Ballinger Press.

Courses Taught

Introduction to Geography: A modern synthesis

Political Geography

Population Geography

Statistical Methods in Geography

The Nationality Question in Marxist-Leninist Societies

Ethnicity, Nationalism, and the State (International Studies Senior Seminar)

Political Geography of the USSR/Russia

Professional Associations

Member, Board of Directors, United Educators (insures more than 1,200 colleges and universities)

Member, Board of NITLE: National Institute for Technology in Liberal Education, (served as first chair of the Board, 2001–03).

Association of American Geographers
American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies

Did You Know?

Liebowitz first set foot on the Middlebury campus not as a faculty candidate, but as a student. He spent the summers of 1981 and 1983 studying Russian at Middlebury's Russian School and says that the "intense and relentless faculty focus on student learning was like no other learning experience I have ever had."

student-faculty learning environments, but cost far less?"

At a November open session with Middlebury staff—part of a series of forums Liebowitz held with faculty, staff, and students to help set the agenda for the planning process—he outlined all that the College had achieved since 1992, when Middlebury last endorsed a strategic plan. "But we aspire to do more," he said. "We need to build on our successes, like our established infrastructure and our curricular strengths. And most of all, we need to embrace, encourage, and support our people." How the College does that, he believes, will define Middlebury in the years ahead.

Liebowitz at Home

For all the advantages in selecting a president from within an institution, there is also an inherent difficulty: How can a person shift within the same institution from provost to president, from operating officer to leader?

A provost is a hands-on, roll-up-the-sleeves, problem-solving person, so immersed in the College culture that he not only knows every faculty member, he knows the courses each one teaches—he even knows the course numbers for each course. To make the transition requires a person who can effect big changes—and if there was any question about whether Liebowitz can handle dramatic change, this question was answered emphatically in the fall of 2002.

That September, he met Jessica Korn, a Yale graduate and Harvard Ph.D. in political science. They fell in love, were married within a year, and had their first child, David Heschel, in February of 2004. They are expecting their second child in May.

Jessica Liebowitz began her career as a professor of Political Science at UMass-Amherst. Soon thereafter, she was named a Congressional Fellow by the American Political Science Association, which enabled her to serve as the lead telecommunications staffer to U.S. Senator Pete Domenici. This experience, in turn, led to her appointment as adjunct professor of new media at Columbia Business School. She then went on to become founding editor-in-chief of the *Gallup Management Journal*, a post she resigned upon moving to Vermont to join Ron. She remains a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Outside of her eclectic career path, music has always played a central role in Jessica's life. She was trained as a pianist at the precollege division of the Julliard School. As a student at Yale, she became involved in student-produced musical theater while also continuing to study piano at the Yale School of Music. Then, as a graduate student at Harvard, she served as the resident music tutor at one of the undergraduate houses while completing her Ph.D.

Jessica and Ron's commitment to being fully engaged with the College's intellectual and cultural life led the couple to commission renovations to the president's house at 3 South Street. Their personal living quarters are on the second and third floors of the residence, while the main floor, in essence, has been turned over to the College community. They created a reception room from what was once a den by opening a wall to provide a more inviting entry for guests. Artwork from the College museum adorns the walls, and a 1930 Steinway piano (a gift from Hector Griswold '71) has a prominent place in the redesigned music room, which is now poised to host student recitals. In the coming weeks, months, and years, 3 South Street will also serve as a locale for faculty and staff reading groups, presentations by student organizations, research presentations, student poetry readings, and the like.

When asked to describe her husband's perspective on the College, Jessica says: "He loves Middlebury in so many ways. He

loves its excellence, its potential, the constancy of its community. And this love for the institution is not blind or abstract or strategic, but deep, full, and sincere. I think that's very rare. Middlebury is lucky to have someone at the helm who has such a strong connection to the institution, and Ron is so lucky, of course, to be in a place where he can build upon this unique connection."

Life at 30,000 Feet

In 2000, when John Hennessy was appointed president of Stanford, outgoing president Gerhard Casper said of the longtime Stanford administrator and former provost: "He's been at Stanford a long time and has observed me and my predecessors. But until the buck stops here, you never quite understand what you're in for."

Liebowitz laughs at that quote and acknowledges that it's true. And he's quick to point out the flip side: You may come to know a person as provost, come to know him very well in that position, but that doesn't mean you know what he'll be like as a president.

Liebowitz explains that while a provost must focus on details as an institution's chief operating officer, a president must work at 30,000 feet, setting the strategic direction of the college. During the first few months of his presidency, he has engaged in a series of discussions leading up to the 2005 planning process, holding open forums with staff, having lunch with students, and meeting with individual academic departments (by the end of December, he had met with 15, and has meetings scheduled with the remaining 12).

Liebowitz's interest in engaging the community to think about Middlebury's future—and to think about it in creative ways—goes hand in hand with his fervent belief that ingenuity is essential to the College's health. In his inaugural address, he said, "To be true to [our] impressive history, we must, first, preserve those parts of the Middlebury culture that encourage creativity and foster innovation. There must be a level of confidence within the institution so that particular successes in one area of the College are viewed as successes across the entire institution; otherwise successes born out of innovation and creativity will have little chance of survival."

"I think this sentiment is unusual, and I found it to be incredibly bold," says Nan Jenks-Jay, Middlebury's director of environmental affairs. In an academic community, she says, innovation and tradition are often contradictory. Academic communities have a reputation for being resistant to change, and when change does take place, it happens slowly. "But here he turns the sentiment on its head. He's demonstrating that the tradition of Middlebury as a place of academic excellence is built on ingenuity, creativity. That quote—'We must preserve those parts of the Middlebury culture that encourage creativity and foster innovation'—is something I'll be quoting forever … and it so represents Ron."

Liebowitz admits that talk of an innovative, creative campus may rattle some in the community, but if Middlebury is to excel, it must embrace change. "We must give support and provide incentive to those whose ideas push us beyond our comfort levels and current ways of thinking," he says. "Entrepreneurialism doesn't necessarily go hand in hand with the culture of an academic institution, but it's been one of Middlebury's strengths going back many years, and I want the College to continue to nurture it and benefit from it."

At Home
Ron and Jessica Liebowitz at 3 South Street.

Like the October meeting with parents in Mead Chapel, the fall forums with faculty, staff, and students have included candid exchanges. Liebowitz has been asked by faculty whether the College will continue committing its current levels of financial aid to international students; he's been asked by the staff how Middlebury services its debt; and he's had intense discussions with students about the Commons and about access to faculty. In each case, Liebowitz says, "the dialogue, the engagement has been fantastic."

"I found his meeting with the psychology department to be extraordinarily inclusive," says Associate Professor Michelle McCauley, the department's chair. "Not only did he meet with the entire department, but he really seemed interested in hearing all of our concerns. And at the same time, he was very direct in letting us know what he thinks, what his opinions are. From my perspective, that's a great thing. I think this speaks to his openness and his transparency. It is sincere, and that's why it works so well for him."

"At the beginning of our meeting, I think people were a little skeptical of his motivations," says Maija Cheung '05, who attended one of the student lunches. "We weren't sure if this was just part of a public-relations ploy, a way of saying the administration had met with the students. But right away I could tell he was genuinely interested in what we had to say; he encouraged us not to hold back any criticisms. If he's willing to listen—and it certainly seems like he is—students have a lot to say."

Staff members, too, welcome the inclusiveness. "I think that the more he talks to people, the more engaged and interested people become," says Joanne Leggett, administrative and operations manager in the Dean of Student Affairs Office. "Ron's made it clear that the staff will play a significant role in the future of the College, and people I have talked to have been really impressed with his informational meetings."

In early December, Liebowitz convened 2004's final faculty meeting, a crowded assembly in Kirk Alumni Center. Though it was the third time he had presided over a meeting of the faculty, several in attendance commented that it was the first time that it didn't feel like a new president was leading the meeting—it was simply the actual president presiding over the meeting. Shortly before 5:00 P.M., after all the committees had reported, Liebowitz

Planning Primer

This January, the College embarks on a strategic yearlong planning process that will guide the College from 2006 through 2012 ("As a Soviet scholar," Liebowitz quips, "I shy away from five- or ten-year plans.")

Some of the many issues to be addressed:

Strategic Goals

Strengthen the academic program and reputation of the College

Ensure that Middlebury's public reputation reflects the level of excellence the College has attained and is building

Support an institutional climate in which fresh perspectives, creative ideas, imagination, and an entrepreneurial spirit are valued and rewarded

Pursue strategic collaborations with other institutions

Leverage the reputation and strengths of Language Schools, Bread Loaf School of English, and Bread Loaf Writers' Conference

Students

Reassess packaging of our financial aid awards, with a goal of reducing financial barriers for those students we accept and who require aid

Establish a blueprint for completing the Residential Commons system

Faculty

Ensure that faculty energies can be more focused on teaching, scholarship, advising, and mentoring students

Strengthen faculty development programs to enable faculty members to become more productive scholars, recognized nationally in their fields, as well as engaged and effective teachers

Curriculum

Define Middlebury's "21st-century liberal arts curriculum"

Determine the role of the natural sciences within that 21st-century curriculum

Identify how we can best build upon our traditional curricular strengths—our "peaks" of excellence

Reassess the senior-year academic experience and consider required independent senior work

Assess the impact of an increasing number of double majors on the goal of educating students broadly in the liberal arts, on curricular gridlock, and on teaching resources

Campus and Infrastructure

Refine the definition of (and then develop) the pedestrian campus

Pursue mutually beneficial areas of collaboration with the town of Middlebury

Take advantage of emerging technologies in teaching while always balancing that use with the human dimension of our teaching

Pursue operations that are consistent with our reputation as the "Environmental College"

Staff

Review work schedules and policies to enable staff to increase their participation in the life of the College

Strengthen staff development programs to provide career advancement and ensure ongoing contributions to the College's core mission

For updates on the planning process, visit *www.middlebury.edu/administration/planning*

briefed the faculty on the most recent Board of Trustees meeting, giving a full accounting of what had transpired. By most recollections, it was the first time the faculty had been briefed on the inner workings of the trustees. He then opened the meeting to questions "on any information provided this afternoon, or on any other issue." Perhaps unaccustomed to such an open invitation, the faculty was uncharacteristically silent at first, before a few questions were asked.

"I think we might have been caught off guard a little bit, but as we get used to this opportunity I think people will be more comfortable asking questions," McCauley laughs. "As a rule, most meetings follow a general script, and I think Ron is changing the 'script' for faculty meetings. His elaboration on the trustees meeting, for instance, was certainly a shift. And in this instance, I think it helps us to see the broader Middlebury picture. As a faculty member, it's easy to become so focused on our specific field or department or discipline that we can lose sight of all the other important parts of Middlebury that make us who we are. Ron has said that he wants particular successes in one area of the College to be viewed as successes across the community. Well, this transparency helps us to do just that."

Liebowitz's leadership style—a style based on transparency and engagement—coupled with his innate, organic understanding of the Middlebury community offers the College a fresh perspective on itself and its new president. Though he's been a fixture on the Middlebury campus for more than 20 years, the community is just getting to know Ron Liebowitz as president.

While he is a person informed by his life and career as a scholar, educator, and administrator, he's not defined by these experiences. To define Liebowitz as president you need to combine his track record of two decades at Middlebury with his fresh vision for the College's future. It's a combination that reflects the character of the institution itself, where tradition and innovation go hand in hand.

To reach Ron Liebowitz, you may email officeofthepresident@middlebury.edu

Up

WHEN BRITTON KEESHAN '05 SCALED MOUNT EVEREST LAST MAY, HE BECAME THE YOUNGEST PERSON EVER TO REACH THE HIGHEST POINTS ON THE WORLD'S SEVEN CONTINENTS

BY SARAH TUFF '95

PHOTOGRAPH BY DENNIS CURRAN

BRITTON KEESHAN '05 IS OUT OF BREATH. Near the top of 980-foot Snake Mountain in Addison, Vermont, a guy who has recently climbed 29,035-foot Mount Everest is out of breath.

OK, so he's not exactly doubled over, gasping for oxygen, as he peers down at the quilted farms and twisting waterways of the Champlain Valley. And his breathless state on this cool August morning has less to do with conditioning than with the fact that he's been asked to summarize his climbing accomplishments—at just the moment in the day's climb that requires a modest amount of physical exertion. Though short of breath, he begins to list the peaks he's summited—and it's a rather long list—while continuing to climb. He speaks in a modest, casual way, and it quickly becomes apparent why he didn't at least pause to catch his breath before honoring the request: he's too *polite*. He was asked a question, so he answered it; lack of oxygen be damned. It's comforting to see that a guy with one of the loftiest hobbies in the world is so down to earth.

Though Britton is still a college student, David Letterman has given him a seat on the *Late Show,* multinational companies have handed him the microphone to inspire their executives, and bloggers constantly sing his praises because last May, Britton Keeshan became the youngest person ever to have climbed the Seven Summits, the highest points on each of the continents. From mighty Everest (Asia) to diminutive Kosciuszko (Australia), these peaks have caused many a daydream among office-bound workers. But while the rest of us only dream of adventure—bringing the mountain(s) to us through our mind's eye—Britton walked out of his home in Greenwich, Connecticut, and took himself to the mountains.

AT MIDDLEBURY'S PORTER HOSPITAL, where Britton works part time as an emergency-department technician, the man who climbed the Seven Summits is better known as the grandson of Bob Keeshan—who was Captain Kangaroo on the longest running children's show of all time and who lived in Vermont for 14 years. From 1955 (after a stint as a clown on the *Howdy Doody Show*) until 1984, Bob Keeshan marched to "Yankee Doodle Dandy," listened to talking clocks, and stood under showers of Ping Pong balls. He also opened up a world of learning, literature, and exploration to several generations of children.

"My grandfather was a person who believed in reading to kids, getting them to be creative, and opening their minds to bigger things," says Britton. "I'm a really extreme example of my grandfather's ideology. I've opened my mind; I've explored the world—I just did it a little more literally."

Naturally, Britton watched television as a kid, not only *Captain Kangaroo*, but shows like *Rescue 911* and *Trauma: Life in the ER,* which sparked an early interest in medicine. Climbing mountains, however, took a greater leap of the imagination. "There wasn't a hint it was going to happen," says his father, Michael, a marketing consultant. "He had always been extraordinarily curious, and I think the climbing and his love of the third world and its medical issues are manifestations of that curiosity."

He was a spirited hockey and soccer player as a youngster, but, frankly, not a talented one. (He garnered lots of "best sportsmanship" and "most improved player" awards, the type of honors generally reserved for scrappy benchwarmers.) One day when he was 14, he decided he'd like to spend his summer climbing the Grand Tetons instead of going away to tennis camp.

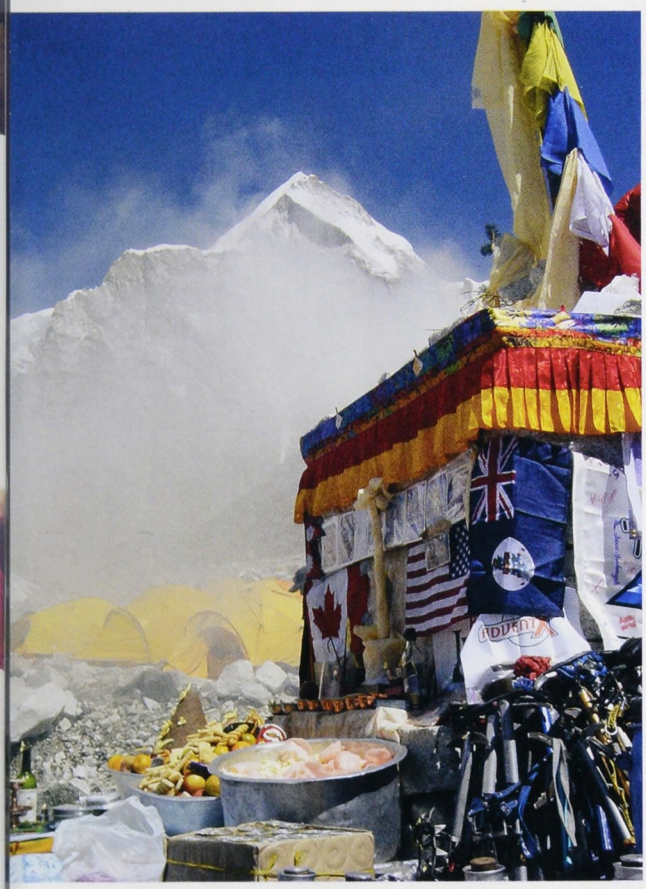
LIFE'S RICH PAGEANT Britton has volunteered in medical clinics in third-world countries (right), been blessed by a lama (bottom), and played monopoly at a base camp on Mount Everest (opposite page).

"I was ready to get away from Greenwich," Britton says, "and it was so different from anything I'd ever done before, just a complete shift." The following summer, in 1997, he went backpacking in Alaska and laid eyes on North America's tallest peak: 20,320-foot Denali. Britton was smitten; he *had* to climb Denali. And so he prepared himself for the tough technical climb with a month-long course, in 1998, at the glacial Waddington Range Traverse in British Columbia. "It was the hardest thing I'd ever done in my life," he says, remembering the first-day slog of 3,000 feet, carrying 80 pounds of gear in the relentless heat before collapsing in his tent. "When I woke up in the morning, I thought, This is never going to happen; I'm not going to last 30 days out here. But you take one day at a time, and you pull through it. You have incredibly hard days."

You also have incredibly hungry days, as Britton learned when the group ran out of food for the final week of the trip. Waiting

SEVEN SUMMITS, THE HIGHEST MOUNTAINS ON THE SEVEN CONTINENTS

MOUNTAIN	CONTINENT	PEAK (FEET)	SUMMITED BY KEESHAN
Denali	North America	20,320	July 3, 1999
Aconcagua	South America	22,841	January 22, 2001
Elbrus	Europe	18,513	August 2, 2001
Kilimanjaro	Africa	19,340	August 27, 2001
Kosciuszko	Australia	7,310	April 10, 2003
Vinson Massif	Antarctica	16,067	January 14, 2004
Everest	Asia	29,035	May 24, 2004



for the bush plane to pick them up in the wilderness, the haggard climbers stumbled into a logging camp, where a shorthanded lumberjack asked for help moving one of his trucks that had been left on the mountain. Though he'd never driven a car with a manual transmission (much less a truck), an exhausted Britton volunteered and chatted up the logger as they drove to the site. When he arrived back at the camp—white-knuckled from craning his neck over the steering wheel and operating the stick shift on a steep road—Britton found that he and the other climbers had been repaid with a hearty dinner and breakfast the next day.

"It was just an incredible experience," he says, "not to have eaten for four or five days, and then you're having authentic lumberjack food—flapjacks and steak and potatoes—with authentic lumberjacks."

Altruism seems to come naturally to Britton. In grade school, he regularly visited the elderly, and shortly after arriving at Middlebury, he joined the Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance Association. A double major in molecular biology and religion, he aspires to practice medicine in developing countries, which explains why he lugged a 1,300-page medical school entrance exam prep book to Everest. And when not at school—or climbing—he volunteers in medical clinics in third-world countries.

Last February, Britton worked in a medical clinic in Ethiopia, living in Addis Ababa with Middlebury biology professor Chris Watters (who was teaching on a Fulbright) and Watters's wife, Cynthia. "I guess he didn't have anything else to do, in between climbing in Antarctica and Everest," Cynthia Watters laughs, "so why not come volunteer at a clinic in Ethiopia? Of course! What else could spring to mind?" Then Watters adds, seriously, "Not many people think this way, of course."

But as Britton learned at the logging camp, reaching out to others is the only way truly to understand the culture of a people, be they Ethiopians or burly lumberjacks. This anecdote, in a way, seems to offer a glimpse of the balance in Britton's experiences—the immediate, visceral payback balanced against what his father calls a holistic and philosophical approach to climbing mountains.

"It's about much more than the technical process of undergoing a climb," says Michael, who with his wife, Lynn, and younger son, Connor '09, has taken a crash course in mountaineering. "It's self-discovery and awareness of the people you're climbing with and the people who are supporting you on your way to the summit."

It is also, no doubt, about an addiction. "Whenever you're on the mountain, you can't stop thinking about Big Macs and show-

Up

ers and all that kind of crazy stuff," says Britton. "But when I get back, after about a week, I want to be back in the mountains. Every time I climb something I want to climb something bigger and have that same kind of rush from going back to civilization after 30 or 40 days on the mountain."

NEARLY 20 YEARS AGO, Texas businessman and ski-resort founder Dick Bass climbed to the highest point on each continent, setting off an avalanche of interest in "peak-bagging." Ever since, mountaineers, mothers, and midlife-crisis victims have aimed to set their own records, which have been complicated by competing claims over the seventh summit: Australasia's Carstensz Pyramid in Irian Jaya or Australia's smaller Kosciuszko. Thus, the list of summiters is riddled with asterisks indicating who did what first, when, how, and where.

In any case, only 150 men and women have climbed the Seven Summits, a feat that requires not only a passion for mountains but superior physical conditioning, patience for unexpected obstacles (such as a shower of SUV-sized ice chunks, which narrowly missed Britton on Denali, and the severe cough and fever that sidelined him on the expedition in Australia), and the ability to handle the complicated logistics. But whether or not Britton was fully aware of just what lay ahead, he decided at age 17, just three years after his first real climb, that he would attempt to reach the Seven Peaks, starting with Kosciuszko. ("I chose not to go to the cannibal-surrounded jungles of Borneo for Carstensz Pyramid," he says. "If you don't want to call it a record, so what?")

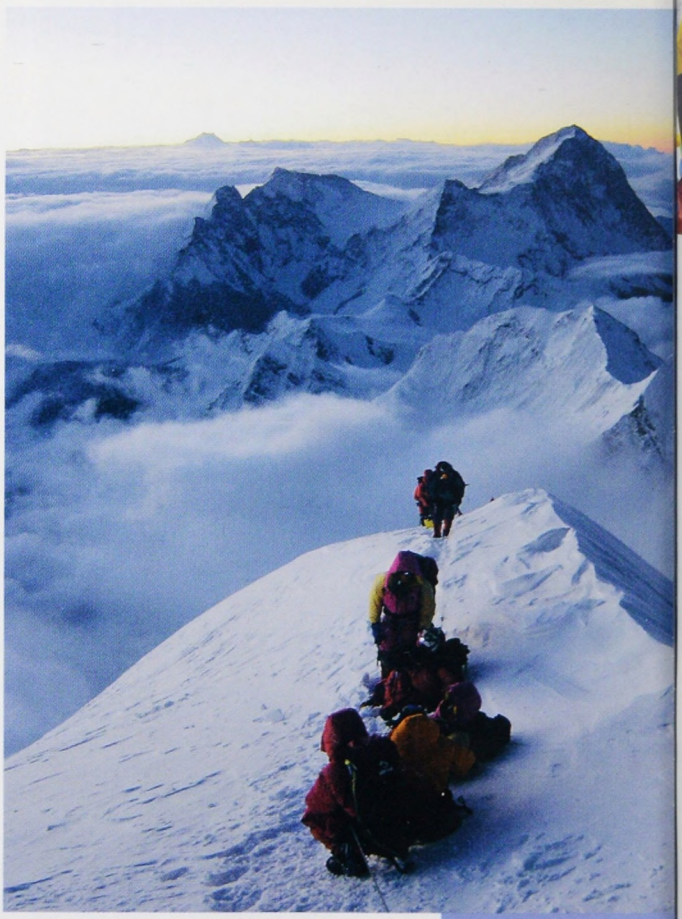
After summiting Denali in 1999, Britton intended to postpone college until after the Seven Summits, but his parents pushed him to pursue an education first. Accepted at Middlebury for February 2001, he spent the fall of 2000 in India, where he landed a job plucking maggots from the wounds of leprosy patients. He flew home in December, ducked south to bag Aconcagua in Argentina (a climb of 22,841 feet that took three and a half weeks) and then arrived at Midd, where he discovered he could climb *and* study, with judicious planning. "The College has been very important in giving him the right mindset to do this," says his father. "He finds the environment extraordinarily encouraging."

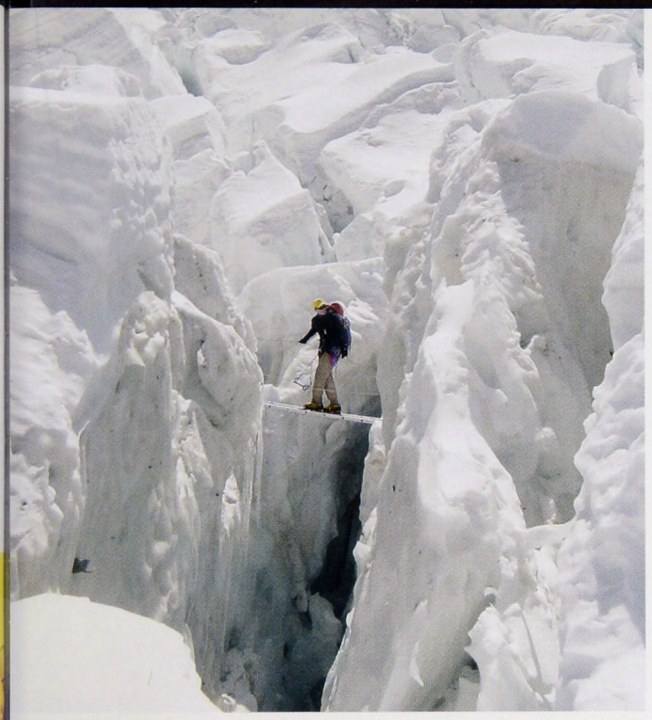
In July and August 2001, Britton scaled Russia's Elbrus, and then Kilimanjaro, where he stared out at the Serengeti and began to cry at the beauty of the African plains below his feet. "Britton is unique in that he goes out there, and he's understanding the mountain in a different way," says Gordon Janow of Alpine Ascents, the company that has guided Britton on several mountains, including Everest. "He absorbs the knowledge of the mountain and the surrounding culture, and that is very rare for younger climbers."

Britton also possesses his grandfather's aptitude for mood-lightening moments. On one of the first climbs, a fellow mountaineer was struggling to reach the summit, so Britton thought he'd lighten things up—by launching into an impromptu chicken dance, flapping his arms and craning his neck back and forth at 20,000 feet. The dance worked. In fact, the moment made such an impression—on Britton and his compatriots—that upon reaching each subsequent summit, he would step aside and, at some of the world's highest peaks, perform the chicken dance.

Antarctica's Vinson Massif would prove to be a more serious undertaking. For one thing, the Ellsworth Mountains, in the underbelly of the earth, are so remote and so locked in a deep freeze that planes must skid for several miles on the icy runway before coming to a stop. For another, spending time at the bottom of the planet takes money—much more money than the Keeshan family could spare. But, as Michael says, "In typical Britton fashion, he figured out how to make it a financial reality."

Sponsorship would be necessary, but the climbing boom of the 1990s meant that corporate dollars had mostly vanished. "You can't just walk into an international company and say, 'I want to climb these mountains, will you give me some money?'" says





ONWARD AND UPWARD
When Britton and his team left base camp to ascend Everest, he says other trekkers looked at them as if they would never be seen again. Yet the climb was a success, as Britton—and his memories of his grandfather—made it to the summit.

Britton, who, after a bit of arithmetic, discovered that he could play the Seven Summits game to his advantage by besting the record of 23-year-old Japanese climber Astsushi Yamada. He typed up a 40-page PowerPoint proposal and mailed it to more than 20 major corporations. AT&T called back, agreeing to fund expeditions to Antarctica in January 2004 and Everest in May 2004. "For me it was never about being the youngest person to climb the Seven Summits," says Britton. "It was just a great outlet to accomplish my bigger goal."

It was in Antarctica, on January 23, 2004, that Britton received the disturbing news that his grandfather had died in a hospital in Windsor, Vermont—10 days after Britton had reached his sixth summit on Vinson Massif. "He knew that I had made it to Antarctica," says Britton. "But I didn't get to see him afterward. He was an inspiration in my life, a mentor, a confidant, everything a grandfather should be."

So, along with his iPod (loaded with Hindi pop and French hip-hop) and his MCAT textbook, Britton packed two special 8-by-10 photos in his bags for Everest. He said good-bye to his family and his Bernese Mountain dog, Denali, and on March 27 flew to Tokyo, then Bangkok, and finally Kathmandu. In the 11,585-foot-high village of Namche Bazaar, the team loaded up the 200 yaks and two dozen porters who would carry enough gear for two months up to base camp. They shared milk tea with the mother of their head Sherpa, began to snack on the boxes of Oreos, Twizzlers, and Pringles that Alpine Ascents had shipped over, and learned how to acclimate to the altitude—and to each other.

"It's nice to have a big climbing team, in our case 8 climbers, 3 guides, and 26 Sherpa," Britton wrote from base camp on April 26. Before arriving in the Himalayas, he had tested the way his body reacted to altitude by attempting to climb Cho Oyu on the Nepali-Tibetan border. But he had no way of testing how a *group* of people would react to each other in extreme conditions. "Sometimes it can be walking on eggshells," he wrote, "even among the best of friends, at 21,000 feet."

Of course, mountaineering at that level is extraordinarily dangerous; Everest famously so. Yet Britton—whose mom escaped from the World Trade Center in 2001 and who urged him to keep climbing—has the gravitas to be aware of his passion's dangers and the *carpe diem* attitude to continue while he can, before he has a wife and kids. He recalls the trekkers he met just before the summit attempt. "When we said good-bye to them at base camp, I swear they looked at us like we were about to die, that we were never going to be seen again," says Britton. "And it could have gone that way."

Indeed, ominous signs were everywhere: the twisted wreckage of a rescue helicopter, silver sculptures memorializing those who lost their life on the mountain, the names of dead climbers painted on rocks and boulders. On summit day, a lama blessed Alpine Ascents' climbers; perched atop a tent pole was a bird believed to be one of the lost souls of Everest.

It was dark and cold on the final ascent, so dark that the digital camera Britton had been using to document the trip became useless, so he tucked it into the folds of his outer parka. As he neared the summit, thunder rumbled and lightning flashed in the distance, and Britton became overwhelmed with emotion. "The last 50 feet to the summit, it represented so much more than just Everest," he says. "It was me at age 17 saying I'm going to set a goal that I wanted to work toward . . . It was so humbling."

The mountaineers huddled at the summit until the sun rose, at which point Britton pulled out his camera and began to click away. Before starting the descent, there was one last thing to do. He pulled from his bag the two 8-by-10 photographs—both of Bob Keeshan, one as Captain Kangaroo and one as himself. Britton placed them in the snow, where soon they would be buried in a Himalayan storm, adding another layer to Everest's rich history. And with his grandfather beside him and the world below him, Britton showed the Sherpa how to do the chicken dance.

Sarah Tuff '95 writes from Burlington, Vermont. She has climbed to the summit of Snake Mountain without supplemental oxygen, but still can't do the chicken dance. Her stories have appeared in National Geographic Adventure, Men's Journal, Skiing, *and* Adventure Sports.

The gruesome 1958 killing spree that inspired Oliver Stone's film *Natural Born Killers* and Bruce Springsteen's song "Nebraska" is the subject of the debut novel by **Liza Ward '97**.

Unlike the other artists, however, Ward has a personal connection to the killers.

They murdered her grandparents.

MurderSheWrote

By Rachel Morton

Photographs by Kathleen Dooher

Ward had spent many happy summers in Nebraska, largely unaware of the terrible events that had occurred on the premises.

IT WAS A COLD MORNING IN JANUARY 1958, when Charles Starkweather and Caril Ann Fugate burst into the gracious Ward family home in Lincoln, Nebraska. Steel executive C. Lauer Ward was at work, but his wife, Clara, had been following the teenage couple's weeklong killing spree in the newspaper and was well aware that seven people had already been brutally murdered. So when the surly 19-year-old Starkweather demanded a pancake breakfast, Clara was quick to comply. Her efforts to appease the homicidal pair, however, were futile. Before the end of the day, Clara, her husband, and their maid would all be stabbed to death.

What dread and horror must Clara Ward have felt? How did she prepare herself for her own inevitable death at the hands of homicidal teens? Did she plead for her life? Were her last thoughts of her 14-year-old son, who was away at school? When her husband came home from work, did he find his wife's body before the teens attacked him?

These are questions that have haunted Liza Ward '97, granddaughter of the slain couple—and in her debut novel, *Outside Valentine,* she has imagined the answers. The book's publication has launched Ward's career as a novelist, and, perhaps more important, begun a healing process by bringing this dark family chapter to light.

WARD LEARNED OF HER GRANDPARENTS' MURDERS WHEN she was five or six, but the gruesome details of their deaths were never spoken of in the Ward home. Photos and stories about Clara and C. Lauer Ward were absent, too, as if any memory of them conjured too much pain.

"Children have an instinct for what shouldn't be said," Ward says. "It was like walking on thin ice." One can imagine Liza Ward as a young girl—serious, quiet, and watchful. She is much like that still, and though the photograph on the book jacket shows a poised, elegant woman, in person Ward seems younger than her 29 years—somewhat shy and eager to please.

Though a lot of attention has been paid to *Outside Valentine*—Ward was interviewed on NPR, and the book was reviewed in the *New York Times Book Review* (September 26, 2004), an honor rarely accorded a debut novel—Ward seems grateful and somewhat surprised when a visitor compliments her on her writing, and she relates that when her book was published some of her old friends were astonished. "Part of me is pretty unassuming," she says. "I had somewhat low self-esteem in college."

It wasn't until her second year at Middlebury that she broke the family silence that enveloped its history. On campus one summer while attending the Italian Language School, she slipped into Starr Library and, driven by a rush of curiosity, sought out a book on serial killers. For the first time, she learned details about the tragedy that had haunted her family for years, reading detailed accounts of her grandparents' slaying, including "the number of times my grandmother was stabbed and how she groaned in pain."

Descriptions of the crime scene were vivid and ghastly—how her grandfather was pushed down the basement steps; how he tried to fight back; how the killers switched their order from pan-

cakes to waffles; how the kitchen filled with the disorder of a frantic breakfast preparation. Ward could picture it because she'd visited the house often as a child. Her father grew up there, and after his parents were murdered, his aunt and uncle moved in to try and give the shattered 14-year-old some semblance of a normal life. Ward had spent many happy summers in Nebraska, largely unaware of the terrible events that had occurred on the premises.

"I was trying to find out what my grandparents were really like, what really happened," she says of her reading that day. But at the same time she felt guilty opening a door into a chapter of her father's history, a door that he had firmly closed. "Those secrets become what you're desperate to find out about," she says.

Though the Ward family dealt with the horror by closing it off and refusing to speak of it, the crimes seized the attention of a horrified American public. Starkweather and Fugate escaped from the Ward house and would kill again; eventually, 1,200 police and National Guardsmen would capture the killers outside Valentine, Nebraska. However, the story did not end there.

The brutal and random killings by the pair of teens have lived on in popular culture through films like Terrence Malick's *Badlands* and Oliver Stone's *Natural Born Killers,* as well as Bruce Springsteen's song "Nebraska." And while 46 years have passed since Starkweather and Fugate terrified the Nebraska populace, interest in the story has not waned. Earlier this fall, Ward went to Lincoln on her book tour and was astounded to find 2,000 people assembled for her reading, an unheard-of turnout for any literary event. In the audience that day was her grandfather's college roommate, and others (neighbors, friends) who knew the victims well. Also in the audience were people who knew the killers. Through his portrayal in films, Starkweather, who was executed in 1959, has assumed some of the patina of James Dean, the actor whose performance in *Rebel Without a Cause* Starkweather aped and idolized. The residents of Lincoln who knew Starkweather, however, remember him as a punk, a bully, a brute, and Ward is

Outside Valentine

In a little while, the telephone rang and both of us jumped. The lady looked at me to ask what she should do. I didn't know. Then Charlie was there to answer for me. "I thought you said there wasn't anyone going to call."

Ring.

"How should she know?" I said.

Ring.

"Whose side are you on?"

Ring.

"Yours, Chuck."

Ring.

The lady stood up. Charlie cocked the gun. "Get it, like always," he said. "And nothing funny. I can kill you if I want. If you say one word." The lady picked up the telephone. "Hello," she said, and listened for what seemed like too long of a space. "Yes—I'd forgotten." She looked at Charlie. He nodded at her to keep on going. His wrist was shaking. He was in a panic. "A headache," she said. ". . . No, it's fine. I was just resting." She rubbed the ring with her thumb. It twirled round and around. Bright diamonds went to smooth silver back to diamonds. "Another time . . . Goodbye." She hung up the phone and sat down in a chair. Charlie breathed deep and lowered the gun, "Who was it?"

"A friend."

"Did she think anything?"

The lady shook her head. "I'm sorry," she said.

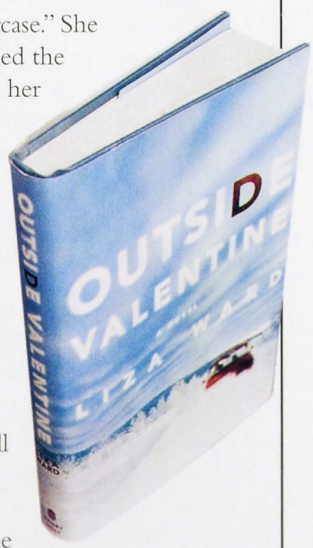
Charlie seemed to believe her. "Where's the TV at?" he said.

"In the den off the foyer."

"Where's that?"

"Off the front hall with the staircase." She looked down at her dress and touched the syrup and rubbed the stick between her fingers. "May I go upstairs and change my clothes?"

Charlie thought about it. "Well, don't try anything funny. Don't forget who's boss." His voice broke on the words. He did not sound like the boss, but a boy out back with a boomerang trying to shoot a squirrel down out of a tree. I wanted to put my head against him and ask if it would be all right to cut our losses at the maid, maybe lift a little money, and head home to eat peanut butter out of the jar and hear about how much he loved me. But I was never going back home. I knew that much. Home was over for Caril Ann Fugate by then.



From Outside Valentine *by Liza Ward. Copyright © Liza Ward, 2004. Used by arrangement with Henry Holt and Company.*

For all its beauty, the strength of the book lies in its terrifying story, which is powerfully told.

angry that movies such as *Badlands* glorify her grandparents' murderer. "In reality," she says, "he was unattractive, stupid, and mean."

But Fugate gets a slightly more sympathetic treatment in the book. Not that Ward accepts Fugate's protestation of innocence. Fugate, who insisted she had been kidnapped and was herself a victim, was found guilty and served a prison sentence until her 1977 parole. She is currently living in Michigan and working as a nurse.

"Even if she didn't kill anyone, she had so many chances to turn him in," says Ward. "But she was the real mystery to me. When you're that young, how responsible are you?"

WARD ALLOWS READERS TO PONDER THE QUESTION OF Fugate's guilt or innocence in *Outside Valentine*. The book weaves together three voices and three time periods: Fugate's voice from the 1950s, Ward's father's from the 1990s, and Ward's mother's from the 1960s. Though *Outside Valentine* is based on an actual event, Ward insists that the narrative is pure fiction.

The delicate layering of three sensibilities coupled with beautiful yet stark language has garnered it much praise: *Publishers Weekly* praised its "lean, luminous prose," and *Booklist* called it a "stunning first novel." For all its beauty, however, the strength of the book lies in its terrifying story, which is powerfully told. The murders themselves, when they finally occur, are narrated by Fugate—in a voice equally detached, juvenile, and petulant, giving the murder scene an unnerving horror.

"These voices came out of nowhere," Ward says of the characters, whose stories she began writing after she graduated from Middlebury. Several of her first short stories, published in *Atlantic Monthly,* the *Georgia Review,* and *Agni Review* laid the groundwork for the writing she would later do in graduate school at the University of Montana's creative writing program. During her first semester at Montana, she was reading Isaac Babel's *Red Cavalry* "when the voice of Caril Ann came to me," she says. When she graduated two and a half years later, her thesis was *Outside Valentine*.

Ward dates her awakening as a writer to a January term creative-writing course she took with Middlebury writing instructor Barbara Ganley during her junior year. The intensity of the monthlong writing experience and the concentration it demanded jump-started her desire to be a writer. "Nothing made me feel so alive," she says. "Writing is what I can do. What I live for. When I'm not doing it, I feel like half a person."

WARD WAS LIVING IN MONTANA WHEN SHE WROTE *OUTSIDE VALENTINE,* but she discovered another "character" for her novel while visiting her parents in New York. One evening, Ward's father returned home from work with a bag of jewelry that he had retrieved from a safety deposit box. The jewelry had belonged to Clara Ward and had sat untouched—out of sight, out of mind—for more than 30 years. Liza was fascinated by the family heirlooms and instantly realized that Clara's jewels would serve as a powerful literary symbol; the jewelry plays a major role in the narrative, both opening and closing the book.

For the past 18 months, Ward has lived in her family's summer home, a 17th-century house outside Boston that has been in her mother's family for generations; the jewelry that so inspired her now rests in a piece of antique furniture in the house. On a late fall morning, Liza Ward pulls out the diamond and emerald earrings, glamorous necklaces, chunky turquoise Mexican pieces, and elegant rings that once belonged to her grandmother, Clara Ward.

Though the fictional jewelry has a much richer literary and symbolic history than the real stuff, it still evokes some wonder for a reader to pick up and hold the pieces. But for Ward, they no longer pack an emotional wallop. "They're not my style," she observes as she returns them to the drawer.

Clearly the past has released its grasp on Ward. Though she will spend the winter in Massachusetts working on her second novel—which takes as its subject her maternal ancestors—she is looking forward to spring when she will get married and move to Montana. A pile of engagement presents leans against the wall—new stuff for the brand-new house that she and her husband will build on their Montana land. "It will be our place entirely," she says with satisfaction. "This is nice, but it gets stifling sometimes."

Rachel Morton edited Middlebury Magazine *from 1995–2002. She lives in Burlington, Vermont.*

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Class Action

On the Horizon As Mount St. Helens rumbles and steams, research geologist Tom Pierson '70 goes on call. Photograph by Casey Kelbaugh '96

Nature's Detective

Geologist Tom Pierson '70 walks the volcano beat. And his work saves lives.

By Marc Covert

It seems odd, at first, to learn that the David A. Johnston Cascades Volcano Observatory is a one-story, nondescript building nestled in a sprawling Vancouver, Washington, office park, a good 50 miles south of its star subject: the continental U.S.'s most active volcano, Mount St. Helens. And then you're reminded of the observatory's namesake, geologist David Johnston, and his frantic radio transmission on the morning of May 18, 1980—"Vancouver, this is it!"—just before an enormous lateral blast of hot gas, steam, and rock debris, traveling upwards of 600 miles an hour, engulfed him at his observation post five miles from the volcano's peak. On second thought, it makes sense that those entrusted to scrutinize the infamous volcano are close enough to make field surveys, yet safely removed from immediate danger should catastrophe return.

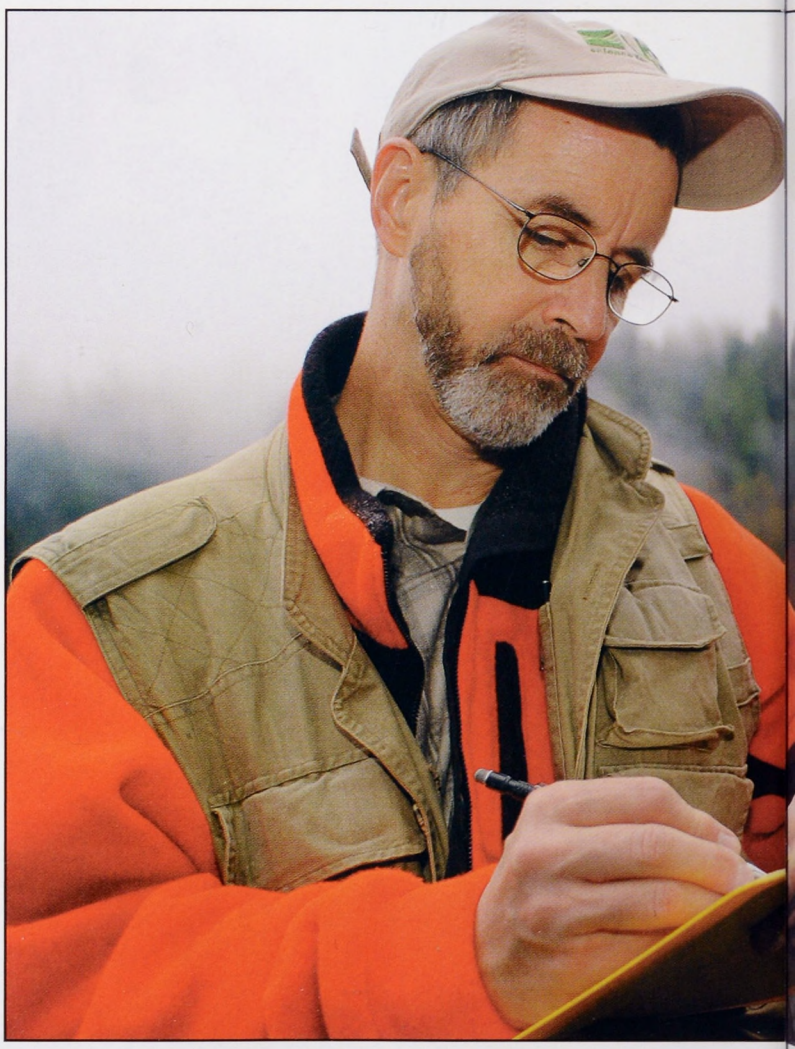
Well, St. Helens is rumbling again, the media's interest is piqued, and the Pacific Northwest is jittery. At the confluence of this brewing storm of science, interest, and fear is Tom Pierson '70, a research hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey.

He and his colleagues' behind-the-scenes role in the study of volcanoes was abruptly thrust front and center when St. Helens awoke on the evening of September 22, 2004. "We had no lead-up; it came completely out of the blue," he says. "However, it *is* the most active volcano in the Cascades mountain range, so it wouldn't be right to say it was a complete surprise."

Earthquake swarms—when a large number of earthquakes occur in a short period of time—were detected beneath St. Helens on September 23; three days later, a "notice of volcanic unrest" was issued, designated as level 1 on a three-point scale. On September 29, the USGS raised the alert level to 2, indicating "concern that current unrest could culminate in an eruption." An onslaught of media attention ensued, and Pierson, a USGS point person on the dangers communities face if a volcano erupts, became a must-get interview for journalists worldwide.

Pierson specializes in the study of lahar flows: volcanic mudflows consisting of sediment, rock, debris, and water, "basically, wet mucky stuff that slides off the sides of volcanoes," Pierson explains. "Lahars are a saturated mixture of water, rock, and soil; they occur in mountains everywhere, and they're very destructive."

So destructive that lahar flows are one of the gravest dangers a community can face when a volcano erupts. Lahars can crush anything in their path and are capable of burying entire communities under



Inspector Pierson
"What I've always liked about geology is that I get to be a detective, looking at clues," Pierson says. "And I can take that detective work and put it to use in dealing with ongoing volcanic hazards."

Photograph by Casey Kelbaugh '96

layers of thick, cementlike debris. (In the 1991 eruption of Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines, 700 people were killed by lahar flows.) For this reason, Pierson's greatest responsibility before a volcano erupts is to forecast where the danger zones will be for the nearby community. When a level 3 alert is reached, Pierson immediately informs the various municipalities what their

risks are. Factors such as historical precedent, mountain topography, current climate, and the density of erupting rock fragments and hot gases are all taken into account.

Prompted in early October by another series of earthquakes—harmonic tremors, which indicate the movement of magma toward the surface—scientists raised the alert to 3, necessitating the evacuation of 2,500 people. Steam and ash eruptions continued, but a blast never came; the alert was lowered to 2 when the quantity and severity of earthquakes dropped.

While the steam plumes are dramatic, Pierson is more interested in what's going on inside and underneath the crater, where lava-dome activity is being detected for the first time since 1986. A second dome is rising now, pushing up on a horseshoe-shaped glacier on the floor of the crater, splitting it in two. Pierson is watching to see if the hot lava will cause a sudden, catastrophic meltdown of the glacier. Clearly, St. Helens is still very much in the spotlight, and Pierson's job is what he calls "any geologist's dream."

Lahars can crush anything in their path and are capable of burying entire communities under layers of thick, cementlike debris.

Growing up in Pennington, New Jersey, Pierson was a self-described naturalist, constantly exploring the woods, fields, and streams of his rural town. When the time came to choose a college, he was sold on Middlebury, primarily by its location in the Champlain Valley. He selected German as his major, but late in his second year, he began to think about following a different track. In the spring, he audited a geology course and was smitten. "I sat in on it just for fun—I did all the work, went on all the field trips, did all the exercises; I just *loved* it. By the end of that semester I had decided to switch majors."

After graduating, he spent a summer as a field assistant in New Mexico for Professor Peter Coney, and later earned advanced degrees in geology; he was working in a post-doctoral position in New Zealand when St. Helens blew. Half a world away, Pierson heard only sporadic reports of the event, but a few weeks later he was in Seattle for a wedding and couldn't resist driving south to have a look at the devastation.

"I could see all the damage done by the debris flows," he says. "I was *fascinated* by what had happened. This enormous lahar had flowed over 70 river miles and emptied enough material into the Columbia River to block its shipping lane."

Pierson had a résumé with him, and he dropped it off at the USGS office in Vancouver on a lark. He returned to New Zealand, but in October the USGS called and offered him a job. He relocated that winter.

Though his base is in the Pacific Northwest, Pierson has traveled around the globe to study numerous volcanoes in far-flung locations. He's learned that minor eruptions can trigger catastrophic lahars (the surface area of snow on an icecap, the entrainment of eroded sediment, the presence of velocity-inducing valleys are all critical components), and he uses this information to inform communities located downstream of volcanoes, in hot spots worldwide.

In his office, Pierson is surrounded by books, rock samples, computers, and family photos. He's soft-spoken and self-effacing when responding to questions about himself, but he becomes animated when questioned about his work.

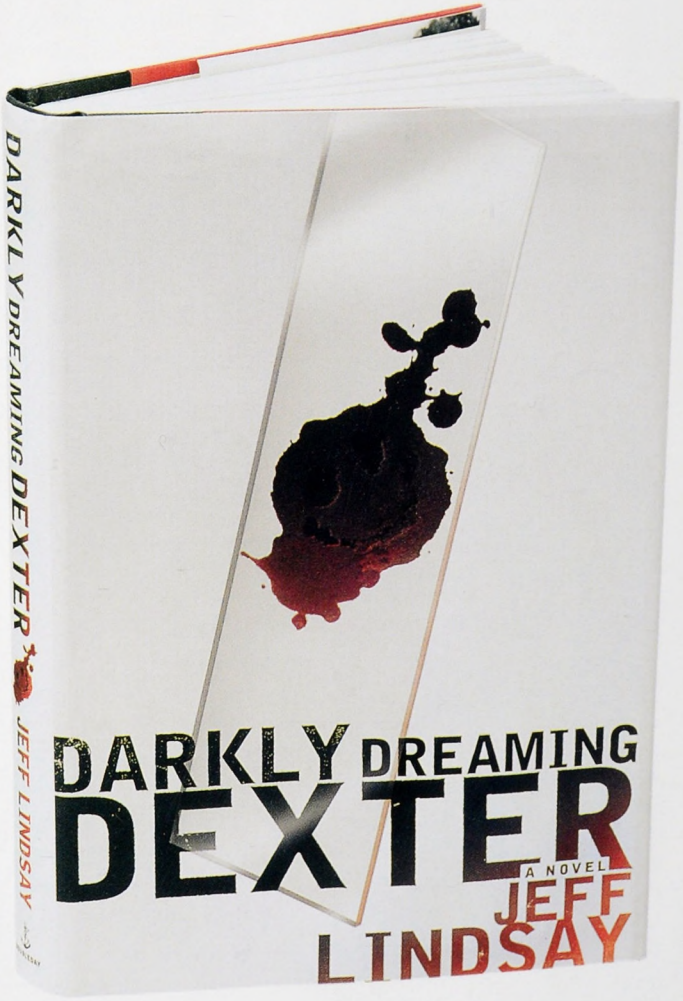
"What I've always liked about geology is that I get to be a detective, looking at clues—it's the ultimate cold case," he says. "The fun is in answering questions by collecting data, trying to figure out what happened. What I find rewarding is that I can take that detective work and put it to use in dealing with ongoing volcanic hazards around the world today."

Pointing to a wall-sized photo of the Mount St. Helens crater, he continues: "For example, we know that, once triggered, lahars can flow around a lava dome like this and go straight down the side of the mountain. We don't tell people what they *should* do, but we try to give them information so then they can make up their own minds as to how much risk they're willing to accept. So the work we do here is at the very forefront of the field and has far-reaching benefits for people around the world."

Marc Covert is a freelance writer in Portland, Oregon.

Dark Dreams, Indeed

Not since Hannibal Lecter has a serial killer seemed so, well, likable.



By Blair Kloman, M.A. English '94

When Dexter Morgan likens himself to a crumpled and recently emptied donut bag, he's not far off.

I poked at the white paper bag. There was nothing left inside. Just like me: a clean, crisp outside and nothing at all on the inside.

As the straightforward and unpretentious protagonist in *Darkly Dreaming Dexter,* by **Jeff Lindsay '75**, Dexter is forever reminding us what a real creep he is—a blank, empty, nonhuman-like human, whose only real pleasure is targeting elements of Miami's criminal underbelly and providing them with their final moments of redemption, as he methodically carves them alive into neat and symmetrical parts, drains them of all blood, then carefully wraps the tidy pieces in pretty, ribboned packages.

But here's the hitch: people really like Dexter. He's funny, smart, good-looking, well dressed, and endearingly self-deprecating.

And that's only the beginning of the many ironies that drive this strangely funny first novel. Dexter's job as a blood-spatter analyst for the Miami police is confounding because he can't stand blood (thus the draining of his victims). His self-proclaimed lack of human feeling is questionable as he becomes emotionally involved in the copycat serial-killer case central to the novel. And his supposed inability to relate to other humans is debatable, in light of the compassion he shows for his foster sister Deborah, also on the police force, and fragile girlfriend Rita. So while he is quick and eager to assert that he merely "pretends" at being human, the reader discovers something quite different by the end of this unexpected *roman à clef.*

As a young child, Dexter was abandoned and exposed to extreme and bizarre violence, and then adopted by Harry Morgan, a highly regarded Miami police detective. Growing up, Dexter knew he was "different"—for example, he had a penchant for butchering objects of annoyance, such as a neighbor's boisterous dog. Harry, acknowledging Dexter's inherent need to kill things, encouraged his ward to find ways to use this need to benefit Miami by purging the city of its most evil occupants. Under Harry's experienced tutelage, Dexter learned how to commit his useful crimes without leaving a trace for the police. And so began Dexter's lifetime of calculated murder.

But something strange settles upon Miami in the form of a dangerous and deliberate serial killer—something all too recognizable to Dexter. He finds himself caught in a web of conflicting emotions—yes, emotions!—as he struggles to find a balance between a desire to help his sister find promotion within the Miami ranks and his innate attraction to this particular killer and his signature style—which is markedly similar to his own.

With prose that veers from eerily demonic stream of consciousness to comedic theater of the absurd, Lindsay provides a twisting tale of murder and mayhem in Miami, while establishing the ominous start of an enduring character. According to Lindsay, a second Dexter novel is due out soon.

Photographs by Tad Merrick

Book Bites

Middlebury Writer-in-Residence **Julia Alvarez '71** completed a pair of books in 2004: *The Woman I Kept to Myself* and *Finding Miracles*. (A review of *Finding Miracles* can be found in "Faculty Shelf" in this issue. *The Woman I Kept to Myself* was a "Faculty Shelf" review in the spring 2004 issue.) Alvarez's 1994 award-winning novel *In the Time of the Butterflies* was selected as the 2004 fall pick for Chicago's citywide book club, One Book, One Chicago.

The Honeymoon, the debut novel from **Justin Haythe '95** ("Mommy Dearest," summer 2004), was one of 22 books nominated for the 2004 Man Booker Prize, one of the literary world's most prestigious awards. Haythe was the subject of a *Times*, London, story, in which the paper wrote: "A scriptwriter who struggled for years to find a publisher is among six first-time novelists who have been nominated for the 2004 Man Booker Prize, overshadowing literary heavyweights who had been tipped to make the long list. The publishing debut of Justin Haythe, 30, made such a dramatic impact on the Booker judges with *The Honeymoon* that they overlooked established writers such as V.S. Naipaul, Louis de Bernières, and Jeannette Winterson for the award."

Sweet Revolution

In *Tropical Babylons: Sugar and the Making of the Atlantic World, 1450–1680*, editor **Stuart Schwartz '62** sets the stage for raising questions. While it's long been believed that sugar plantations, slavery, and capitalism were all well established as the Atlantic world emerged, these nine original essays by a multinational group of reputable scholars begin to re-examine the roots and realities of the so-called "sugar revolution."

By providing a comparative study of the earliest Atlantic sugar economies, Schwartz's contributors illuminate key similarities and differences among the plantation colonies. With particular focus on colonies of Spain and Portugal, these essays expound that—despite the reliance on common knowledge and technology—there existed considerable variations in the way sugar was produced. Overall, the volume questions the very idea of a "sugar revolution" and instead relates how specific conditions of individual colonies influenced sugar production—as well as the impact that crop had on the emergence of "Tropical Babylons," those multiracial societies of oppression.

Talk of the Town

Residents of the charming New England town of Cornwall, Connecticut, like to claim that their little village (population 1,100) has more writers per capita than any other town in the region. James Thurber and Mark Van Doren once called Cornwall home, and in 1991 a local couple launched a weekly paper, *The Cornwall Chronicle*, that soon fell under the editorial direction of Spencer Klaw, a retired editor of the *Columbia Journalism Review*.

About a year before his June 2004 death, Klaw became inspired to publish a compendium of *Chronicle* stories, and he enlisted the aid of publishing consultant and writer **Ed Ferman '58** to collaborate on a publication that would best illustrate the *Chronicle*'s creative and eclectic bent over the past 13 years. The result is *A Cornwall Companion*, a charming collection of 200 stories and letters culled from 150 back issues of the weekly paper.

Through articles carrying such titles as "The Black Spruce Bog," "School Vote October 19," and "Slouching Toward Cornwall," one is provided an intimate view of a tight-knit community nestled in the northwest corner of the Nutmeg State; Cornwall's "mom-and-popness" all but jumps off the pages and is delivered with a wink and a nod.

In "Cornwall Dog Days," Ferman writes about the results of dog registration month, listing the town's most popular breeds, the oldest dog, and most popular name. "License Number 1 went to Thunder, who hangs out in Cornwall Hollow and is a breed so exotic it would put you to shame if you have a dog as common as a black lab named Jake." (The most common breed and common name in Cornwall that year.)

He continues: "Number 1 always goes to the town clerk or, as in this case, her assistant. 'Saves arguements,' said Barbara Dakin."

A Cornwall Companion is available by mail from *The Cornwall Chronicle*, 143 Cream Hill Rd., West Cornwall, CT 06796. Price is $20.

Night Table

What's on Jeff Lindsay's night table?

- Steven Pressfield, *The Virtues of War*
- Barbara Tuchman, *The March of Folly*
- Stephen Greenblatt, *Will in the World*
- Robert Fagles's translation of *The Odyssey*
- Mary Roach, *Stiff*

Recently Published

- *The Berkeley Literary Women's Revolution* (McFarland Publishing Company, 2005), includes an essay by **Doris Smith Earnshaw '46**
- *Mortal Means* (Cherry Grove Collections, 2004), poems by **Kay Cavanaugh Barnes, M.A. French '95**
- *Race and Time: American Women's Poetics from Antislavery to Racial Modernity* (University of Iowa Press) by **Janet Gray, M.A. English '87**
- *We're Killing Our Kids: How to End the Epidemic of Overweight and Sedentary Children* (Worthy Press, 2004) by **Todd Hollander '85**

class

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Greetings to all. On August 13, 2004, just four months after he received an honorary doctor of letters degree from Middlebury College's then-president John McCardell in a joyful ceremony at his home in New Harbor, Maine, and just 10 days after his 98th birthday, **Storrs Lee** slipped away. Storrs left not only a literary legacy to Middlebury, but also years of service to the College, especially as a beloved dean of men. The world will remember him for his writings, but we remember him in his College days. He was involved in almost every College publication, particularly as the editor of our 1928 *Kaleidoscope*. He participated in dramatics, taking major roles, and loved singing in the Middlebury Men's Glee Club, an excellent touring group that put Middlebury on the musical map. He also played in the band. He wanted 1928 to be special and helped to make it so. He leaves a small but spirited group of women, determined to represent 1928 well. ✳ As I write we do not know the outcome of the presidential election, but all regarded it a privilege and obligation to be informed voters. **Helen Bailey**'s military experience makes her concerned about our country's image, what the new order will be like, and whether we will ever be solvent again. All of us appreciated absentee ballots and volunteer drivers. Helen, who is enjoying assisted living at Vernon Hall, Vernon, Vt., also appreciates the driver who takes her to medical appointments. ✳ Having celebrated her 98th birthday in October, **Helen Revere Hatch** had no problem passing the eye test that all Florida drivers over the age of 80 must take. Her driver's license was renewed. ✳ The winter of 2005 will find **Elizabeth Hayes Balch**, 97 in October 2004, caring for her Oregon home and enjoying family outings. ✳ **Louise Thompson** has a companion with her in Saxtons River, Vt., Both enjoy Meals on Wheels. ✳ There is a lonesomeness in my Concord neighborhood because of the closing of a historic and revered Catholic Church, with no town recourse. 'Til spring, Mimi

—Class Secretary: *Mrs. J. D. Coombs (Miriam Sweet) (978-369-5595), 13 Highland St., Concord, MA 01742.*

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This past August, I returned to Maine for a three-week nostalgic visit. Most of my family was able to join us, and we entertained, all told, 21 of the 24 I count as immediate family. Besides visiting old friends in Southwest Harbor, we visited cousins on Isle au Haut and in Castine. The Southwest Harbor Fleet is still very active, so I also saw a lot of the old crowd with whom I sailed. The weather was a bit disappointing. Coastal Maine had a cool, poor summer. ✳ Not a word from any of my dear classmates since I last reported to Middlebury. Please write.

—Class Secretary: *Mr. E. Parker Calvert (calverte@aol.com), 6251 Old Dominion Dr., #225, McLean, VA 22101.*

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Nancy Moores Poltrack lives in an assisted living community in Leominster, Mass. "I miss my family, of course—they are scattered in Florida, Colorado, and New York state—but telephoning helps. I have two great-grandchildren, a boy and a girl. Perhaps Midd is in their future, I hope!"

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Rosemary Faris Baer has changed apartment numbers. She is still living at 7450 Olivetas Ave. in La Jolla, Calif. (92037-4928), but her apartment number is now C241. She would be pleased to hear from friends. ✳ **Leonard Snow** made it to the 70th Reunion in June, with two canes—Gamaliel Painter's and one for a March hip replacement. "Strenuous, but enjoyable. I surely missed old friends and classmates who couldn't make it."

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REUNION CLASS

I recently sent a questionnaire to each member of the Class of 1935. From the 28 questionnaires I sent out, 11 replies had been received by the time of this deadline. Of those replies, it seems that about half of the respondents own and drive a car. Half have visited Disney World—and one of our number worked for Walt Disney way back in 1945! Only two of us are lucky enough to have a pet. In the past year, only one of us has taken a cruise or flown in a plane. The majority reported not getting a backache from gardening; whether they just didn't garden, as I suspect, or really had sturdy backs, I don't know. Congratulations to the three of you who have computers. When asked if political outlook has changed in the past 20 years, the reported change was even. An overwhelming majority of our classmates attend church. News programs and the *Jeopardy* game show are the most popular evening shows. All of you enjoy your grandchildren, with one classmate boasting a great-great-grandchild. The Class of 1935 is keeping up with world change well. Your class secretary would appreciate hearing from you. ✳ **Virginia Easler Wilson** writes: "We are still doing well and are happy and very busy in our retirement home. In July we became great-grandparents for the first time. We are fortunate that Ashley lives not far from us in Tampa, Fla. During the winter season, our daughter and son-in-law are only 20 minutes away." ✳ In August, we lost another member of our class, **Frances Lamson Seager**. Frances was a member of the Mountain Club and the French Club. In her junior year, she was active in the A Tempo Club and orchestra. The class extends its sympathy to her family and friends.

—Class Secretary: *Alma Davis Struble (Mrs. Robert), 1977 Marlboro Rd., Kennett Square, PA 19348.*

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Anne and **Dick Chase** and **Marion Cole Morhouse** attended the memorial service celebrating the life of **Angus Brooks**, who passed away on August 29. Hugh Marlow '57 was also in attendance at the South Church service in Concord, N.H., on September 10. The stories recounted by Gus's wonderful family members brought both tears and laughter to those assembled. It was especially heartening to hear the grandchildren read from the letters Gus had sent to them while they were in school. Our faithful correspondent will be greatly missed in these pages. ✳ We are also saddened to report the death of **Stanley Gage** on June 25, and of **Elizabeth Rivenburgh Opdyke** on December 31, 2003. ✳ **Roxana Lewis Blackmore** ponders with pleasure the fact that "so many students from all over the world are being educated in a little Vermont town." She well remembers that she "traveled only 50 miles—and half of that distance was on dirt roads. When the snow was heavy, the car stayed home." ✳ **Doris Wall Roberts** is "still carrying on a little business, making red lobster refrigerator magnets out of sea shells." One year she made 11,000 magnets, but she is now down to three or four thousand. She reports that "it keeps me going. Still spending winters in my house on Marco Island, Fla."

—Class Secretaries: *Mrs. Margaret Leach Harris, 516 W. River Rd., Lincoln, VT 05443; and Miss Louise E. Hutchinson, 149 East Side Dr., #351, Concord, NH 03301.*

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All of our Floridians were kept on edge during the four major hurricanes that hit in August and September. As this was written, Hurricane Jeanne had disrupted communications, so it was difficult to check on the status of classmates. George and **Mildred Trask Roesch** had to evacuate their oceanfront condo in Jensen Beach, near the point where Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne made landfall. Although they were able to stay with friends, the unnerving experience of the first storm led to Mildred's admission to a care center for rest and medical attention. ✳ William and **Rita Cosenza Moore** were prepared for the worst when Hurricane Charley had Venice in its sights, but the storm instead veered into Punta Gorda, only 15 miles away, leaving that town, in Rita's words, "in a

shambles." ✳ After enduring three hurricanes in Jacksonville, **Elizabeth Vanartsdalen MacArthur** continued with plans for her annual pilgrimage to North Carolina with a group of church friends. ✳ Robbie and **Ruth van Sickle Robinson** were happy to be in upstate New York during the hurricane season, with plans to go back to St. Petersburg home in October. Robbie said they miss their "camping trailer and the camping life that went with it," but they enjoyed trips to the Thousand Islands, the Silver Bay Family Conference on Lake George, and Midd's Alumni Leadership Conference at Bread Loaf. ✳ A Wisconsinite who had a taste of a Florida hurricane was **Barbara Gregory Hopkins**, who attended a family reunion in that state. She also went to another reunion in New Jersey. Barbara wrote that, like many of us, "we still travel that old worn trail to the MD's." Her most recent visits followed a bad fall, resulting in a broken ankle and injury to an already endangered knee. "It was so dramatic," she said. "Right in front of my whole bridge club!" ✳ An adventure of a different sort was **Marjorie Bulkeley Garwood**'s long flight aboard a small medical plane from Virginia to Alaska, when she moved to Anchorage to live with her sister, Arne Bulkeley Beltz '38. The ride was bumpy and noisy and required several refueling stops. Mudgie, as some Midd friends call her, told **Marion Wishart Packard** that she was happy not to be living alone anymore. She and Arne share their home with Arne's granddaughter, who is a teacher, and a great-grandson (11), plus "two dogs, two cats, a guinea pig, and a wonderful view of the mountains." ✳ Another move, from a city below sea level to one a mile high, has been made by **Betty Ann Hunt Greene**, now living in Denver to be close to her daughter, after 51 years in New Orleans, where she raised three children. "I had just two years at Midd," she wrote, "but I'm glad to hear about those I know." Speaking for all of us, Betty Ann said, "What a long and eventful and wonderful century it has been." ✳ **Ruth Furness Lombardy** is "still playing bridge (very well, I might say!), attending Bridgewater Senior Citizens Club, and getting to church. Son Steven, lives with me and son Ned '62 lives nearby, as do three grandgirls!" ✳ **Doris Downing Daley** says she's "still able to live alone in my own house, drive, do a little traveling, play a lot of bridge, and keep busy. At this point, I have three great-grandchildren, who are wonderful, of course. Regards to all classmates. Would love to see any who might be close by." ✳ **Frank Piskor** is leading "the quiet life in reasonably good health, with wonderful friends who keep me active." He's also heading up a fundraising campaign for the Canton Free Library in his New York state town, yet manages to find the time (and energy) to walk two to three miles every day. Frank is happy to have occasional visits from his two daughters in New Hampshire and Cape Cod. ✳ News from **Walt Brooker**, who keeps tabs on these things: Our Class of '37 had a 76 percent participation in annual giving last year, the highest of any of the "sevens decades" from 1937 to 1997. The average for all Midd classes was 50 percent. Add to Walt's post-retirement activities: membership on the board of trustees of the Middlebury Congregational Church. ✳ Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the families and friends of classmates who have died. **Susan Hathaway Hopper** died in a Vermont nursing home September 28, of complications from a stroke. Sue cochaired our 50th Reunion in 1987 and hosted several reunion breakfasts at her Middlebury home. She was the daughter of Prof. Lewis J. Hathaway, the first head of the College's music department. While a student, Sue played in the orchestra and was a member of the French Club (all four years), the A Tempo Club, and English Club. ✳ Another familiar participant in our class reunions, **Muriel Voter Williams** died June 5, 2004. Muriel's roots were also in the town of Middlebury. Her father was Perley C. Voter, longtime prof. of chemistry at the College. Voter Hall (our chemistry building) has been renamed in his honor. ✳ **Frances Brainerd Parrish Miller** died July 29, 2003. Frances came from a family that included 16 Middlebury alumni, one of whom was her grandfather Ezra Brainerd (Class of 1864), who was president of the College 1885-1908.

—Class Secretary: *Marshall Sewell, 20 Morning Glory Ln., Whiting, NJ 08759.*

MCAA Nominees

For the term of office beginning July 2005, the slate of nominees for Alumni Trustee and the Board of Directors of the Middlebury College Alumni Association is:

Alumni Trustee
Donald M. Elliman Jr. '67

Board of Directors
Aaron H. Abend '77
Maria C. Diaz '93
Bentley C. Gregg '68
Jill L. Patey '98
Robin Reilly Wagner '74

Biographical information for these candidates is available online at www.middleburyalumni.org

To appear in the online ballot this spring, additional nominations must be received in the Office of Alumni and Parent Programs by **April 1, 2005**. These nominations must include a letter of acceptance signed by the nominee, updated biographical information, a photo of the nominee, and 200 signatures of alumni endorsing the nominee.

Approval of the single slate of nominees will take place during April by logging on to the Middlebury College Alumni Web site at www.middleburyalumni.org. For a paper ballot, more information, or to submit additional names for the slate, please contact the Office of Alumni & Parent Programs, Meeker House, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753; phone 802-443-5183; fax 802-443-2082; alumni@middlebury.edu

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The new president of Middlebury College, Ron Liebowitz, has been a geography professor there since 1984. As an authority on Russian economic and political geography, he was one of the leaders on a group trip to Russia, which was very much enjoyed by Dale and **Janet Randall Morgan**. ✳ **Helene Cosenza Chase** "sends greetings to all my friends and classmates." [*Ed note: Apologies to Helene for the computer "corrections" that suddenly misspelled the names of her sisters in the fall column. Apologies also to Rita Cosenza Moore '37 and Louise Cosenza Aldrich '44.*] Helene's two grandsons, Andy and Geoff, are each in jobs requiring computer expertise. ✳ On September 12, there was an opening reception for an exhibition of new paintings by **Marjory Arnold Cady**. It was held at Tully and Marie's, a restaurant on Bakery Lane in Middlebury. Marjorie's entire family was able to be there, as were a host of friends. It was a very joyful and delightful afternoon. ✳ **Eleanor Carroll Mullis** is living at Westminster Manor, 81 South St., Auburn, NY 13021. She moved there a couple of years ago, after breaking her hip. Happily she is only 10 minutes away from daughter Carroll Mullis Buttolph '67. Being Eleanor, you can imagine how much she continues to enjoy playing bridge and participating in many stimulating programs. I know friends will want to write to her at her new address. ✳ The 2004 George F. Leland Community Health Award honors the late **E. Sherburne Lovell**, MD. The award recognizes an individual who represents outstanding contributions in the field of health care and exemplifies the highest ideals of community health care. Sherb had a long career of medical and community service and devoted himself to many projects that benefited both Springfield (Vt.) Hospital and its communities. The award was presented to Melissa Lovell Post '77, daughter of Sherb (who died February 26, 2004) and Marjorie Kohr Lovell '39 (who died June 27, 2003).

—Class Secretary: *Mrs. Charles M. Hall (Margaret Leslie), 510 Wake Robin Dr., Shelburne, VT 05482.*

39

Dorothy Ramsey Harris is still in the same house in which she has lived for 67 years. She no longer drives long distances, but, other than that, life goes on as usual—with a little help from house cleaners and yard men. ✳ **Louise Roberts Avery** no longer drives, but she walks for exercise in the level area near their inn. Her family is close by so she sees them often. Of her six grands and greats only one is a girl—and she is in Montana, drawn there by her love of skiing. ✳ **Irene Fernandez Anderson** has given up golf for bridge. She and her husband visited Vermont during the summer and had wonderful reunions with many relatives and friends. It was so nice to receive her letter with all its good news. ✳ **Jeanette Olson Gould**'s granddaughter, Kara, was married in June. It was a festive affair with friends and family from far and wide. The wedding was held at an inn on the side of Mount Wachusett—which Jeanette climbed many times as a teenager in Worcester, Mass. ✳ **Bob Rathbone** is doing well in Brunswick, Maine. His daughter, Anne Rathbone Winskie '75 (a Midd Russian major), acts as mediator for those wishing to adopt Russian children. She lives in Seattle and has a reunion twice a year with Bob. He has become very close with a family in Brunswick, making his life full and happy. Bob, who taught for many years at MIT, is very pleased and surprised at the appointment of a woman as the new president there. ✳ **Dot Korb Carter** is

very well and keeps busy with her many contacts in Newport, Vt., where she has lived for many years. ✳ The sympathy of the class is extended to **Dede Egbert Bennett** on the recent death of her husband, Tom, who was well known to many of us. Dede is delighted that a granddaughter has settled in Westfield, N.J., where Dede grew up and went to high school, along with **Ruth Colesworthy Hubbard** and **Bev Browning Gilbert**, among others. ✳ **Betty Anne Dunning Jones** and her husband are delighted to be celebrating their 64th wedding anniversary this year. Their son is taking his son on a motorcycle tour in Europe to celebrate the grandson's law degree. ✳ **Mimi Manning Baldwin** is happy living in Toledo, where her retired son lives. Mimi has seven grands and one great. ✳ **Roger Clarke** called on **Thor** and **Carol Miner Gustafson** when he was in New Jersey visiting his sisters. Roger leads a busy social life with a vacation on Cape Cod and sailing trips.

—Class Secretaries: *Ms. Jeanette Olson Gould (jogvt@aol.com) (978-263-8151), 1055 Depot Rd., Boxboro, MA 01719; and Mrs. Raymond J. Skinner (Ruth Coleman) (rskinner@kingcon.com), Brainerd St., P.O. Box 52, Danville, VT 05828.*

40 REUNION CLASS

Curt McDowell, Ed Morse, and **Loring Pratt** got together in Owl's Head, Maine, in September, to reminisce about the Good Old Days at Midd and make plans to return for our 65th Reunion, June 3–5, 2005. Our thanks to **Bob** and **Bobbie Plumer Alden** for serving as reunion social chairs. As class secretary, I can assure you that the College is placing us in Gifford dormitory, centrally located in close proximity to Mead Chapel, Proctor Hall, and many of our activities. Gifford is equipped with an elevator for our convenience. Curtis, Ed, and Loring had a great visit. They also went sailing on Loring's son's cruise boat, *The Morning in Maine*, a 45-foot ketch, and enjoyed the sail very much. We hope you will mark your calendars and plan to be back at Midd for the 65th. We'll be looking for you. And do send in your résumé of the last five years if you have not already done so. ✳ The condolences of the class are extended to **George Fairchild**, who wrote to send the sad news of the death of his wife, **Mildred Falkenbury Fairchild**, on September 21, 2004, after an eight-year battle with cancer. He writes: "She had had her heart set on going back to her 65th! But, if everything holds together, you will probably see me there."

—Class Secretary: *Dr. Loring W. Pratt (roachpond@aol.com), 37 Lawrence Ave., Fairfield, ME 04937.*

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In July, a group of '41ers had lunch together after touring the newly restored Brick House, longtime home of Electra Webb, founder of the Shelburne Museum. Participants included organizer **Jean Connor**, Shaubie (**Margaret Shaub**), **Ruth Hardy Scheidecker**, Westie (**Helen West Burbank**), and Packy (**Ruth Packard Jones**). In August, Jean attended a writers' seminar at Vermont College in Montpelier, where Charlene (**Charlotte Miller Karr**) gave her a tour of the statehouse. Charlene, who works in a gift shop and as a receptionist at the Montpelier Senior Center, was looking forward to two September weeks at the Maine shore. Jean enjoyed a September week "museuming" in western Massachusetts, and Shaubie took a week's tour up the St. Lawrence River. She was recently featured in a Burlington *Free Press* article, as "a model for successful aging and a community treasure." Shaubie accompanies the Champlain Senior Center Chorus and has encouraged many people to "sing out" for the first time in public. ✳ With a daughter in Seattle and three other children in Portland, **Marilyn Reynolds Gray** has lived in a condo in Redmond, Wash., since 1956. Auditing for her son's trucking business occupies her time, plus she plays lots of bridge. Her Middlebury memories include Nomie (**Norma Winberg Unsworth**), **Gale Ufford**, and **Sally Martenis Townsend**. Following a freshman week dance, she found the door locked when she arrived back a bit late, but she got in without any repercussions when some kind soul opened a window. ✳ After wintering in Florida, Nomie and **Ray Unsworth** returned to Vermont and finished the conversion of their lakeside camp to a year-round home. Attending their September open house were **Ann Coffrin**, Jean Connor, Shaubie, Ruthie, Packy, and John and **Connie Smith Carpenter**. ✳ Jean, Westie, Packy, and **Jack Hicks** enjoyed a "Robert Frost in Nature" weekend at Bread Loaf, sponsored by the Henry Sheldon Museum. During his "flying trip" East, Jack also visited **Bill** and Pat Noe '44 **Bursaw** and Bill and **"B" Grow Grim**. ✳ Laddie (**Edith Ladd Evans**) reported lots of rain from hurricanes in South Carolina, two pleasant weeks in Maine, and the October wedding of a niece in North Carolina. She recalled the great times the "Hillside gals" used to enjoy at yearly get-togethers at her place. ✳ According to **Shirley Metcalfe Handforth**, there were some evacuations from the Sun City (Fla.) area, but she and Carl remained at home and experienced only one day of high winds. She spoke with Sun City resident **Alice Noppel Knight**, who had been in Maine for the first two hurricanes. Shirley's two children are in New Jersey and Virginia. She received a card from **Hope Smith Marshburn**, who lives in the Chicago area near her children. ✳ **Peg Wiley Thomson** plans to stay in her mobile home as long as possible. She keeps busy with her 35 Gold Blue Ribbon Singers, who gave 92 concerts from September '03 to June '04. They sing in nursing homes and senior centers. ✳ Becky (**Mildred Becker Elefante**) is very thankful they moved from a cottage into an apartment, where she has three people to help care for Michael. She swims and uses the exercise room to "get back into shape." Her interest in politics continues. ✳ **Janet Sutliffe Scilipoti** is doing well, with hearing aids and a pacemaker. Her son lives in Portland, her daughter in Hanover, Mass. She and Jamen (**Frances Jane Hayden Trask**) keep in touch via e-mail. ✳ John and **Ruth Carpenter Donnell** spend summers at a lake camp near Ludlow, Vt. They are happily located in a retirement community (Cathedral Village) with its own college. Entirely organized by the residents, the college offers seven well-attended courses a semester. ✳ For nine years, Roger and **Mary Kiely White** have been comfortably situated in a retirement community in a suburb of Charlotte, N.C., where her brother and his wife also live. Having recovered well from back surgery, she is able to drive. She keeps in touch with **Sally Martenis Townsend**. ✳ Our class was represented at the Alumni Leadership Conference at Bread Loaf by Westie, Ruthie, and Packy. ✳ When Georgia was being hit by storms, **Vernon Wright** was visiting Vermont, where he "had a great visit with my family, with seven of them still going strong, one in his 90s, four in their 80s, and three in their 70s." Despite frequent rain, "we did get in a great many rounds of golf." ✳ **Mal Freiberg** continues as a volunteer researcher and writer for his former employer, the Massachusetts Historical Society, in Boston. Wife Mildred teaches and plays the piano. Daughter Sarah, a cellist, holds first chair in both the Handel and Haydn Society and Boston Baroque orchestras, while teaching at Boston Univ. She and husband Jeff Ellison have two children, Lloyd (7) and Lorena (10). ✳ **Gordon Brooks** reported that his hometown of Sarasota, Fla., missed most of the damage visited upon nearby neighborhoods, such as Arcadia. He noted that there were many good people helping after the storms, although there were "cheats, thieves, and looters." ✳ Our thanks to **George "Bud" Berry** (of Key Largo, Fla.) for passing along a letter from **Fred Butler**, of Naples, Fla. Fred's home was not seriously damaged, but the water surges that inundated many in his area reminded him "of the typhoon we experienced during the war in the Pacific. Two other destroyers in our group, just like ours, capsized and went down with all men aboard (approximately 300) in water that is seven miles deep. So much for the storm." ✳ **Paul Cushman** fortunately didn't have to evacuate from his Bradenton Beach home. Paul, who was widowed in 1977, was married to church friend Marguerite Matteson on April 27, 2003. Unfortunately he has suffered a fall, injuring his neck and causing problems that have threatened his career as a church organist and have left him with difficulty swallowing. Our sympathy goes out to you, Paul. ✳ **Charles Bartlett** was happy to report that Penney Retirement Community was practically untouched by Hurricane Charley. ✳ Mary and **Dan Martin** are still very actively involved with square dancing. "It keeps us physically active, mentally alert, and socially involved. We've been doing it for 40 years and, with all that it offers, why stop now? We enjoy each day and look forward to Reunion '06." ✳ "Since our 50th Reunion," reports **John Collins**, "I have had so much body work done that I feel like a restored classic that still runs good. Regular cardiac rehab classes help me to keep active." Two years ago, John and wife Margaret celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with a four-day family reunion at North Hero, Vt. They have five grandchildren in college this fall; their five children have settled "on both coasts and points in between." To date they have attended 51 Elderhostel programs and had another scheduled for a fall tour of coastal New England. ✳ **Richard Conklin** left Middlebury at the end of his junior year to enter dental school. Then World War II started and he joined the Navy, serving until 1946. Returning to Middlebury for his senior year, he married June Perry '42. Now retired from his busy dental practice in Burlington and South Burlington, he has had to limit his activities due to macular degeneration. He and June walk a great deal, and he listens to book tapes and uses magnification for reading. Their three children—Carol Conklin Wheelock '62, Nancy Malcolm, and Rich—each have three children. ✳ Don't forget to drop a line to **Joe House**, P.O. Box 248, Georgetown, ME 04548, and chatter a bit. It doesn't have to be news.

—Class Secretaries: *Ruth Packard Jones (Mrs. Charles), 4106 Wake Robin Dr., Shelburne, VT 05482; and Roger M. Griffith (rmg19@adelphia.net), 35 Skyline Dr., Essex Junction, VT 05452.*

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John and **Nancy Rindfusz Bates** report that they are "both in good shape for the shape we're in. Happy to be in the mid-south, but miss our trips to

Vermont and the Midd campus." ✳ A note from **Virginia Smith Baker** reports on her recent activities. A summer visit to New England from her home in Wheelersburg, Ohio, included a rainy walk on Moody Beach in Maine and lunch with **Daphne Smith Burnes** and **Nancy Hall Whitehouse**; a two-day visit to Lake Placid; and lunch at the Middlebury Inn en route. ✳ The College reports the sad news of two recent deaths: **John McMann** on June 10, 2004, and **Dorothy Milligan Schuck** on August 28. John lived in Potsdam, N.Y., where for 36 years at Potsdam High School he taught history and coached basketball and baseball, became director of adult education, served as director of guidance and high school principal, and retired as assistant superintendent. Dotty lived in Turlock, Calif., where she and husband Arthur, a Methodist minister, retired in 1972, after a lifetime of service. Arthur died in 1989. Her life was spent as a minister's wife, supporting her husband's church calling. ✳ In September, as class secretaries, we joined **Chuck Beach**, class agent, and wife Joan at Bread Loaf for the annual Alumni Leadership Conference, where we got briefed on better ways to do our jobs, met the new president, toured the new library, enjoyed the fall foliage, and each gained about five pounds from the generous mealtime and snack time offerings. There is no place more beautiful than Bread Loaf in the fall. If you can possibly make it, try to get back at that time next year. ✳ Most of us are not doing as much as we did. Let us know where and how you are, and we will spread the word.

—Class Secretaries: *Phil and Betty Blanchard Robinson (probinson410buff@aol.com), 410 Buffington Rd., Syracuse, NY 13224.*

43

Bill and **Loie Groben Doe** had a great time at Alumni College, where she "was agog at some of the changes—e.g., the field at Bread Loaf where we had our freshman picnic was covered with little white pup tents. A strange picture. They were for an adventurous freshman class that would be hiking, fishing, and doing other strenuous (to our thinking) activities. They call this program MOO (Midd Outdoor Organization). With groups doing different things, it was quite different from our freshman get-acquainted activity. We also visited Jim and **Mandy Sanborn Krieble**. They feel content and secure, and we were impressed with their set-up." ✳ Since retiring from the practice of psychiatry three years ago, **Ralph Crawshaw** has been involved in developing a 35-mile trail between Portland, Ore., and the Cascade Mountains. If and when the trail is completed, it would accommodate hikers, mountain bikers, and horseback riders in non-competitive modes. It would also be an active museum with stations at different elevations to draw attention to and explain the adaptive changes going on in surrounding wildlife and environments. An abandoned water-bureau building may become available for trail headquarters and use of an old trolley right-of-way is being sought. Ralph also continues writing and reports that his second book (related to his years of medical practice), entitled *The Adventures of a Medical Fabulist*, is nearing completion. ✳ **Ginnie Clemens Lowman, Dumont Rush**, and **Skip Wilkin Dimond**, along with Bob Rude, represented the class at the annual Alumni Leadership Conference at Bread Loaf in September, where the Class of '43 was presented with the Robert W. Leonard '37 Memorial Award for having the highest participation in annual giving, 81 percent, of any non-reunion class the previous year. Ginnie and Skip accepted the award on behalf of the class and the class agents who did such a great job. The group was treated to a tour of the new library, which Skip describes as magnificent. They learned that the desk in the reference section, given by Churchill Franklin '71, will be designated as the **Virginia Carpenter Halstead** '43 Reference Desk. ✳ **Teddy Hood Bittmann** sounded quite chipper on the phone. She occasionally visits **Scotty Lacey Thornton** in Florida and met with **Skip Wilkin Dimond** on the Cape last year. Active in church affairs, she sings in the choir and is interested in a nursing school that her church is sponsoring in India. A son, who lives in Oklahoma, is a lawyer working with mentally disabled families; a daughter lives in Kittery, Maine. Teddy is able to get to the Cincinnati theater at times, but husband Bill's health makes travel difficult. ✳ Bouckie (**Helen Bouck Hildebrandt**) is keeping active at her retirement facility near Delmar and Albany, N.Y. Buses take her to events in Albany and to such places as West Point, Mohawk, the Saratoga Ballet (July), and the Philadelphia Symphony (last August). She particularly enjoys the conversations during and after the evening meal. There are other residents from her hometown of Delmar, where she still attends church. She occasionally drives to visit her son, who lives in her long-time home in Saugerties. ✳ **Helen Haldt Hudson** was in good health in October in Nine Mile Falls, Wash., 14 miles from Spokane. One son has a dental practice there, and seven grandchildren are nearby; her other son is a ski instructor in Utah. She spends November to April in Palm Springs, Calif., with an occasional trip to Hawaii. In addition to keeping in touch with **Natalie Dane Richdale** and **Carol Lewthwaite Lockard**, she reads (heartily recommends reading *College on the Hill*) and gets to the theater in Spokane. ✳ In Pittsfield, Vt., **Dick McGarry** plays golf several times a week and gets to all the Middlebury home football games. After Christmas he goes to Venice, Fla., for four months. His daughters live in Colorado and San Francisco; one son is the general manager of the Killington ski area and the other is the associate director of admissions at the Concord Academy in the Boston area. ✳ We learned in a roundabout way that **Pat Rogers Prukop**'s grandfather is listed in Google's search files. Charles Bailey Greenfield is reputed to have been the first physician to practice in Hawaii. ✳ **David Wood** lives in Nantucket where he grew up, walks a lot, is active in politics, and is distressed by the type of building now going on there. He anticipated an October reunion of alumni of the former Lenox (Mass.) School, where he taught for 25 years. The person at Middlebury who influenced him most was Viola White, Abernethy collection librarian and author of *Not Faster than a Walk* and *Vermont Diary*. ✳ Unfortunately, there were several deaths to report. Letters of condolence have been sent to their families. ✳ **George Grant** died on May 8 from Alzheimer's disease. Due to the exemplary care given by his wife, Beverly Beach Grant '47, he was able to be at home until the last eight months. Beverly says she's adjusting, helped by frequent contacts with her optometrist daughter and visits from their son, a professor at Purdue. ✳ **Vance Richardson** also fell victim to the complications of Alzheimer's, on August 22. He was a quiet, kind, and thoughtful person, an avid skier, much respected in his field of education. He must have favorably influenced countless numbers of his students. **Dick Morehouse** writes of him: "His sense of humor and almost gleeful outlook on life made him an ideal roommate for me. After Doc Cook '24 revealed Melville's *Moby Dick* to us, Vance called me Ishmael. He served in the 10th Mountain Division, which fought its way up the mountainous spine of Italy from Livorno to the Brenner Pass in 1944–45. When I inquired whether he was cold during that winter, he just bobbed his head and chuckled. Dedicated wife Janet was with Vance through his long, still-smiling months with Alzheimer's." ✳ **Carol Hartman Smith** passed away on June 17. She leaves four children, nine grandchildren, and her husband, David K. Smith '42, Midd prof. emeritus of economics. ✳ **Albert Hadley** died from bladder and prostate cancer on July 10 at Hilton Head, S.C., where he and **Lonny Herron Hadley** were living in their son's house. In October, Lonny was moving to a retirement community (329 Indigo Pines, 110 Gardener Rd., Hilton Head, SC 29926; phone 843-681-3656). ✳ **Frank Goldsmith** died of congestive heart failure on September 9 at Edgehill Lifecare Community in Stamford, Conn. He served in the Army Medical Corps in North Africa and Italy in World War II. ✳ And **Kay Sempepos Silliman** died on October 16, 2004, in the hospice unit of the local hospital. Kay had a special combination of warmth and intellect, was interested in so many aspects of life and art, and had contributed greatly to our class and to the College. She cochaired our 50th Reunion and served admirably as class secretary, her lively reports making the class notes come alive. Our sympathy has been expressed to Cutler and her children.

—Class Secretary: *Dr. John S. Gale (jsgale@shore.net), 24 Beach Rd., Gloucester, MA 01930.*

44

Our thanks for the notes and pictures we received following our 60th Reunion weekend. ✳ **Al Boissevain** wrote: "The gracious welcome from all of you to my granddaughter (at the reunion) exceeded—but shouldn't have—all my expectations. The College as well was delightful. Verification again of the special place and time that is Middlebury." Al also indicated that he had to decide whether to go to India this winter or to Chile. He added, "Tough life." We agree! ✳ **Betty Broadbent Brown** wrote that she was at Bread Loaf to attend the graduation of her son-in-law and granddaughter from the Bread Loaf School of English this summer. "Lovely time and ceremony. That place is special." Again, we agree. ✳ In a post-reunion letter, **Hal Parker**, noting the news of **Harold Skinner**'s death in the summer issue of *Middlebury Magazine*, remembered meeting Harold in the Troy, N.Y., railroad station in January 1946, while Hal and wife Edee were on their honeymoon, traveling from their wedding to Midd to register for spring '46 classes. Hal had often wondered about his classmate after that chance meeting. ✳ **Neil** and **Marylu Graham Atkins** welcomed their second great-grandchild, Tyler Mohs, on July 16. ✳ We regret to report the death of **Priscilla Bryant Kelly** on July 8. After being Marylu's roommate at Midd for three years, Pat had kept in touch over the years. Pat's husband, Ted Kelly '45, wrote that just before her sudden death, Pat had been at a luncheon celebrating her 82nd birthday with all her children present. ✳ In its May 2004 issue, the Rutland (Vt.) *Business Journal* recounts the history of the Rutland area Chamber of Commerce and its role in the economic development of the area. The story is told through the experiences of our classmate **Robert Darrow**, who moved to Rutland in 1956, after completing a

medical degree and serving in the Navy during the Korean Conflict. ✳ One of the lesser-known reunion events is the 5-kilometer run. Since **Stod Johnson** had participated in that event at both our 50th and 55th reunions, he was looking forward to the run again at our 60th. Stod wrote that at the 50th, **Mike Petropoulos** and **Ted Kolzak** were the only other classmates who participated. Ted and Stod ran at the 55th. At that time he met Dixon Hemphill '49 celebrating his 50th reunion. Dixon is the brother of Rod Hemphill '43, who, we all remember, played the carillon in Mead Chapel in 1940 and during our first year on campus. Dixon and Stod not only ran the race together at our 60th, but also were presented with an award as the two oldest runners. Stod concludes his letter: "The 5-km race may not be the most important event at the College reunions, but close to 100 runners showed up this year. There was much camaraderie, and all had a good time, made better by the organizational effort the College put into it."
—Class Secretaries: *Dr. and Mrs. Neil Atkins (Marylu Graham) (nmatkins@prodigy.net), 70 Hilltop Pl., New London, NH 03256.*

45 REUNION CLASS

Secretary Wolfley reports: Using a Fall '04 count prepared by the College, there are 130 of us remaining as registered members of the Class of 1945. This from an original freshman list of 288 men and women, apparently about equally divided, who entered college in the fall of 1941. As expected, women outnumber men in the current total about 2:1. (Perhaps that partially explains why Secretary Wolfley has so little to report from the men's side of late.) ✳ **Mike Mann** checks in from the retirement cottage that he and his wife Helen share near Albany, N.Y., with mostly health news concerning his recent hip replacement operation. Mike is a sold-out bull on retirement living. As he advises: "Make the move when you can, not when you can't." ✳ Last winter, the Brattleboro *Reformer* newspaper carried a story about **Phil Dunham**, in which he talks about jumping for Brattleboro High School and competing for Middlebury. He kept it up after he left the Navy in 1948 and, over the next decade, won the Eastern championship 11 times in the veteran's (now called master's) class. When he would compete at home in Brattleboro, the announcer would inform the crowd that the "Flying Dentist" was set to take off. With his dental practice in town, Phil would walk over on lunch breaks in winter to take a few runs. He claims not to remember exactly when he took his last jump. ✳ **Al** and **Jo Higgins Wolfley** have an active travel schedule mapped out for themselves covering this fall and winter, including Europe in November '04, a 14-day trip on the *QE2* in January '05, followed by two months of Florida residence to avoid most of the ice and snow that usually accompanies Connecticut living. One grand recently graduated from law school at Oxford; another becomes a Midd alum in early '05. Continuing business interests, wide-ranging reading (Joanne churns through 60 or more books a year), golf, and more golf take up the balance of available time. ✳ Reminder: The Class of 1943 set a 60th Class Gift record, exceeding $230,000 two years ago; '45 certainly has hard work ahead if we hope to eclipse this mark. As you know, we set the 50th Reunion record for the pre-WWII classes; would be great to do it again this June. ✳ Secretary Walker reports: Arch and **Jessie Woodwell Bush** are still remembering the wonderful surprise party their children planned last October honoring their 50th wedding anniversary and their mutual 80th birthdays. At the home of daughter Anne and her husband, the backyard was festooned with white and gold balloons and flaming torches—truly a "midsummer's night dream." Friends and family members came from as far away as California. Arch greeted a school friend from Pennsylvania whom he had not seen for 60 years. The evening was topped off with a beautiful cake made by Anne. The party continued the following morning, when guests met again for brunch by the pool at the nearby home of son Steve and his wife. An unforgettable affair. Jess sends her greetings to all from Sun City, Fla. ✳ Last June, Middlebury College entertained the Philadelphia alumni at the Union League with a reception honoring our retiring President John M. McCardell, Jr. Close to 100 attended, including Bud and Jean Luckhart Stratton '46, and Ralph and Bette Bertchinger Saul '46. Dr. McCardell's farewell message was high in hopes for our school and strong in gratitude to the alumni for their support during his tenure. After the reception, the Sauls entertained us with an elegant dinner at the League. Always a pleasure to share memories with a variety of classes, but more so with our own. ✳ Condolences are extended on behalf of our entire class to **Nancy Duffie Shuster** on the loss of her son, Ted, who was struck and killed by a drunk driver on September 16. ✳ We were happy to receive good health reports from both Bruce and **Mary Elizabeth Wiszotsky McClellan**. In July, son Bill and wife Nelda McClellan bought the New Hampshire homestead, with the provision that Mew and Bruce will rent until they decide to go to Riverhead, a retirement home, in a year or two. Family and neighbors all applaud these arrangements. ✳ **Dottie Laux O'Brien** wove Mew's B-24 piece into a column for the Manchester, Vt., newspaper—so it was published in print, as well as being on the Washington Web site. ✳ From Indian Shores, Fla., **Betty Adell McCord** shares the good news that Charley, Frances, and Ivan all passed her without any damage, although lots of people in the area were sorely affected. Son Tim in Vero Beach was using a generator for 17 days, daughter Susan nearby had no power for three days, and son Jamie for 27 hours. Large, falling oaks created most of their problems. ✳ My most recent experience with Middlebury was attending the Alumni Leadership Conference at Bread Loaf, September 17–19. My time in Middlebury was brief, but long enough to explore our magnificent new library and to visit the Rodin exhibit at the Center for the Arts. At Bread Loaf I was the only '45er present, but all were most welcoming and I enjoyed a well-planned program, including an introduction to our new president, Ron Liebowitz (inaugurated October 10), as well as an enthusiastic new VP of college advancement, Mike Schoenfeld '73. We heard much wonderful news about our College and its future, all of which I hope you will enjoy learning when you attend our 60th Reunion. May I remind you that our 60th Reunion will take place this June 3–5 at Middlebury. We sincerely wish you to make your plans to join us for a wonderful weekend.
—Class Secretaries: *Ann Robinson Walker (awalker@medleas.com), 181 Medford Leas, Medford, NJ 08055; and Mr. Alan Wolfley (aw451bg@aol.com), 22 Canaan Close, New Canaan, CT 06840.*

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Alice Thorn Laquer writes that husband Ed has finally retired at age 81. They celebrated this event with a cruise on Holland-America's *Rotterdam*. There is some serious thought being given at the present time to the selection of a retirement community. (Well, after all, Ed's retired!) ✳ **Janet Kasper Taylor** writes that she was recently employed as a full-time teacher of writing for 10- and 11-year-olds. She's now learning to play the Indian flute, as well as the Irish flute. Along with other members of her church and with some of her family, she recently built a Habitat House in Arkansas. She's also writing a book. Regretfully, she doesn't give us any information as to her activities in her spare time. ✳ **Kathy Rowley Tuttle** traveled south in February 2004 to escape for a time the brutal Vermont winter. This summer she spent several weeks in Maine. (To escape Vermont heat?) One adventure was a flight on a motorized glider over her home near Penobscot Bay. She's planning a tour of Ireland and Wales sometime in the near future. ✳ **Terry Schnyder Jarrell** reports that she is slowly recovering from her serious fall last March, when she broke her pelvis. We are all delighted to learn that she is again walking. ✳ **Betsy Barclay Wales** e-mails us that her new address is 10 Pennyroyal Ct., Yarmouth, ME 04096. Her telephone remains the same. At the time she wrote, in early August, she was expecting a visit from **Jean Luckhardt Stratton** and her husband. Lucky was coming up to her summer home nearby. ✳ **Becky Fraser Cremer** continues to tough it out in Hawaii. We guess she has finally put her skis away. She sent some magnificent photos, taken by her cousin, of the red-hot lava at night on the big island. ✳ **Mary Elizabeth Cummings Nordstrom** reports that she and Ev have moved to the Farragut in Kennebunk, Maine, to be nearer three of their five children. Mary Elizabeth is the new organist and music director at the Congregational Church of Wells, Maine. ✳ In July, **Bill** and **Jan Shaw Percival** journeyed to Colorado to see their 16-month-old great-grandson for the first time. They also drove to Santa Fe to visit Bill's brother, sister-in-law, and niece, whom they hadn't seen in more than 20 years. A trip highlight was spending two days with Jack and **Ann Argyle Lerew**, touring such Colorado sights as Leadville, Aspen, Breckenridge, and Dillon. The Lerew's home in Dillon is a thing of beauty with very inventive architecture, as done by Jack. In August Jan and Bill had a very pleasant lunch on Cape Cod with **Kay Craven** and **Nancy Rathgeb Smith**. Both ladies are hale and hardy and very active with travels and many other activities. Nancy was most pleased to report on her daughter's beautiful wedding in August.
—Class Secretaries: *Bill (wcpercival@aol.com) and Jan Shaw Percival, 9726 SW 195 Circle, Dunnellon, FL 34432.*

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As one classmate commented, "old age is upon us in various forms," but, despite some extra cautions, bouts of illness, or unwelcome discoveries, our '47 classmates keep active, involved, and forward-looking. Your correspondent spent summer 2004 in Maine, at her Victorian cottage by the mouth of busy New Harbor. This summer we had electric and phone lines extended to the shed and garage, to create studios for writing and art work. There were phone chats with **Joanne Buckeridge Booth**, down in Portland, but a hoped-for luncheon of Middlebury classmates in Maine could not be arranged. We may succeed, with earlier planning, next year. We hope **Bussie Southgate Badger**, who spends summers sailing in the Penobscot area, could join us—and any other class-

mates who may be in Maine during summer 2005. Do contact me for details. ✳ The Vermont group was gathering for lunch at the Woodstock Inn on September 23. It proved to be a day of perfect weather and provided news for this column. **Phyllis Burke Cunningham** especially enjoyed the trip down, with **Alice Neef Perine** as chauffeur. Alice enjoyed seeing Donn Jon Barclay '49, **Lee Koster Barclay**'s widower, at Alumni College, and they shared happy memories of Lee. Alice is busy enlarging a porch at her house. ✳ From **Jean Gunther** came word that she now takes very small kittens home from the SPCA shelter to care for them until they are a few weeks older. Gunth says it can be a 24-hour responsibility! ✳ **Jean Davis Battey** anticipated visiting with cousins in Alabama before Thanksgiving. ✳ **Anita Strassel Tiemann** echoed the comments of several others about the beauties of Vermont in early autumn, saying "it reinforced her reason for moving up there." ✳ From **Mollie Stevens Chesbrough** (who gathered news at the luncheon) came the comment that she's "getting along very well and enjoys life." This summer she decided to enjoy home, neighbors, and her two sons, instead of visiting Europe. ✳ Our thoughts have been with classmates in Florida during the four-hurricane season they recently endured. **Doris Reynolds Cleveland** reports: "Our house in Fort Pierce was hit by both Hurricane Frances and Hurricane Jeanne. Fortunately we were still in Ohio. We consider ourselves lucky—our house is still livable. Blue tarp roofs are in vogue. Workmen are hard to find. The ability of people to bounce back, however, is amazing." ✳ Our thoughts are also with the family of **Don Means**, who died in May 2004. ✳ **Betty Virtue Mozes** reports that they spend most of their time in their home in East Orleans, on Cape Cod. Betty looks forward to attending the 2005 graduation from Middlebury of a granddaughter, the third family member to attend Midd. "I plan to be there!" declares Betty. ✳ **Jeannette Atkins Louth** and her husband are also on Cape Cod, where they have enlarged Jeannette's quaint family home. Penny, as we called her in college years, was treated to a celebration cruise for her 80th birthday. They cruised up the Maine coast, into the St. Lawrence, and down through the lovely countryside to Quebec and Montreal. The weather was ideal in September, and the trees were just showing hints of autumn color. ✳ Bart '48 and **Tiffany Clarke Nourse** attended Alumni Leadership Conference in September. Tiff especially praised the new library at the College. It is handsome, she says, and has the latest information technology available. A worthwhile tour for any of us to take when visiting the Middlebury area. Tiff reports that she and Bart often see the Louths. She also shared news of a recent phone conversation with **Edith Gordon Dawson**. Edie and husband Jack, a former prof. of economics at Grinnell, have done much traveling.
—Class Secretary: *Virginia Stowell James (jinnyjamvsj@att.net), 373 Reeds Gap Rd., Northford, CT 06472.*

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Pete and **Mary Forbes Hanna** enjoyed a trip to Niagara-on-the-Lake, where they saw five plays in four days—"all very well done." In early October, they were off for a two-week tour of Italy, visiting Rome, Tuscany, Florence, and Venice. ✳ **Mary Lee Huff** had a wonderful 80th birthday celebration with all her family. She looks forward to returning to Maui in April. ✳ Roy '45 and **Bev Boynton Kinsey** took a three-week trip to China in October '03, along with Norm and Stemmie (**Adele Stemmler Taylor**). In the spring of '04, Bev and Roy visited Peru for several days, traveling again with Overseas Adventure Travel, an organization that takes small groups and stays in unique places. ✳ According to a Chester, Vt., newspaper, **Bob Fletcher** is working with other trustees to carry out the philanthropic work of the Fletcher Farm Foundation, Inc., in Ludlow, Vt. The Foundation was established in 1933 by his grandmother. Bob also holds the office of historian for the foundation. ✳ **Sandy Rosenberg** writes from Sacramento, Calif., about the passing of **John Hale**, who died December 7, 2003. Sandy and Jack were good friends in recent years. "He was a generous supporter of Middlebury and we shall miss him, as will the many senior citizens of Placer County," writes Sandy. Our thanks to Sandy for readily agreeing to serve as a class agent. He could not attend the Alumni Leadership Conference XXVIII at Bread Loaf in September, because he and Rita were attending the 50th birthday celebration of both their son and daughter-in-law in Arizona. ✳ **Stew Washburn** also readily accepted the invitation to serve as a class agent. He was able to attend the conference, along with about 200 alums. Still as lively as ever, Stew is a great addition to the class agents of '48. ✳ Dave '49 and **Perry Maurer Thompson** hosted Tiffany and me (Bart) for dinner at their "retreat" on ol' Cape Cod this summer. They are enthusiastic supporters of the College, too, and look just great. They were also at the conference, as was **Dick Caswell**, who was happy to be back in Vermont. And though fall had not yet arrived in Vermont, the foliage was beginning to turn to that magic color that we all remember so well. Personal impressions of my Middlebury/Bread Loaf visit focus on the new library and the new president and can be made quickly: Both are very impressive! ✳ Secretary Ness spent a late summer week at Basin Harbor. As Dave '49 and **Perry Maurer Thompson** live a few miles from there, Perry and I found time to spend a day together. The Thompsons do a lot of traveling, frequently with Kyle '49 and **Eleanor Barker Prescott**. When in residence, Perry does a lot of volunteering, including one day per week at Ilsley Library in Middlebury, where her special focus is the children's section. ✳ We extend the sympathy of the class to **Charlotte Hoose Murphy** on the loss of husband Jim in August 2004. She writes: "He was in his 47th year of serving as a town justice in Amenia, N.Y., and was active until June. He was also a life member of the Amenia Fire Company, so he served our community well." ✳ Condolences are also extended to **Jean Robbins Hughes** on the death of her husband, Charles, in April 2004.
—Class Secretaries: *Elizabeth Bredenberg Ness (elizabeth.ness@att.net), 412 N. Wayne Ave., #109, Wayne, PA 19087; and Bartley Nourse (brierpatch4@juno.com), 73 Brier Ln., Brewster, MA 02631.*

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Spencer Wright reports a busy year on the tree farm. "Planting new growth, mowing of acres, removing old trees—not as easy as it was in my 60s, but it keeps one in shape." ✳ **Patricia McFarland Moyer** sends the sad news of husband David's death in June 2004, "not too many months after we moved to Kendal, a retirement community very near where I was born and raised. It's a different life, but I know it's the right place to be, particularly now that I'm on my own. Many old friends nearby, many new friends nearer by, and enough ways to be involved so that boredom is impossible!" ✳ We are very sorry to report several deaths during 2004 in the Class of 1949, including **Doris Queren Oddsen** on February 11, **James Coursey** on April 17, **Joel J. Lamere Jr.** in May, **Albert Lehman** on June 2, **Jean Aberle Dietz** on August 6, and **Merilyn Lodge Emerich** on August 21. The condolences of the class are extended to their family members and friends.
—Class Secretaries: *Patricia Allen Guthrie, P.O. Box 1804, Wolfeboro, NH 03894; and Walter T. Savage, 72 Shadylawn Dr., Madison, NJ 07940.*

50 REUNION CLASS

Fred Neuberger writes: "From May to November, I try to play golf every day, but we travel a great deal in order to see our kids and nine grandchildren. We have sons in Denver and Dallas and daughters in Richmond and Cincinnati. From November to May, I volunteer in the wood shop at the high school. I go in every day about nine and stay all day. Hopefully I am of some help, and I have certainly learned a lot. Dottie has retired but subs a lot in the alternative ed and special ed programs. We are certainly aware of the College since they built the largest building in the state practically in our back yard, but we do not spend a lot of time up on the hill. Our neighbor is the men's basketball coach, so we try to get to some of his games. Parking is impossible for men's hockey; and, anyway, we seldom go out at night. I try to keep in touch with my admissions colleagues, whom I miss very much. This past year my reading has included *A Bright Shining Lie* by Neil Sheehan, *Charlie Wilson's War* by George Crile and *Truman* by David McCullough. We always enjoy seeing Midd friends; and, with reunions, alumni golf, and stray visits, we have many such opportunities." ✳ **Stephanie Griffin** reports that she is the clerk of the Arlington (Mass.) Historical Society. Besides being interested in local history, she is concerned about the natural world, including its inhabitants, especially perching birds (medium to small land birds). Stephanie feels that Middlebury gave her a solid base for her professional life at Bentley College. ✳ **Virginia Orrall Albert** has recently traveled to Texas, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, plus day trips to the eastern shore of Maryland and Cape May, N.J. She planned to be in Texas again for Thanksgiving with youngest daughter Abby. She has four grandchildren in California. ✳ The condolences of the class are extended to **Donald Baker** on the death of his daughter, Susan, last June. He also sends the good news that his grandson, William Timothy O'Brien IV, has celebrated his first birthday. William lives in Austin, Texas, with his parents, Meredith Baker '88 and writer Tim O'Brien. ✳ As our numbers dwindle, we offer sympathy to the families of three more deceased classmates: **Pat Wulp** (July 27, 2004), **William Williams** (August 8, 2004), and **Ginny Worley Valpey** (August 11, 2004). **Faye George Berube** recalls a pleasant visit to the home of the Worleys in Wellesley Hills: "Ginny's father collected music boxes and played some of them for me. They weren't Mickey Mouse items; most had been made in Germany. They were housed in beautiful polished wooden cases, and each one played several selections. He was a very fine gentleman."
—Class Secretaries: *Margaret Stearns Burdett (blueburd@tds.net), 5 Upper Bay Rd., Sunapee, NH 03782; and Walter Paterson (upate86259@aol.com), 11301 Heron Bay Blvd., #2916, Coral Springs, FL 33076.*

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Secretary DeLaney reports: A successful vacation in Canada was enjoyed by Jim and **Barbara Lukens Calkins**, Ken '50 and **Carolyn Sackett Coleburn**, and Dave '50 and **Mary Krum Dale**. They stayed at Hovey Manor, a country-house hotel situated on Lake Massawippi in Quebec's Eastern Township north of Vermont. It sounded so enticing that it made this writer investigate additional information with the thought of going there some day. Both French and English are spoken there. ✳ **Dorothy "Dag" Gilligan Eide** spoke recently of the exciting years she and her husband, Tor, spent overseas in the Foreign Service. She's grateful that she had the opportunity to experience the culture of other countries. Life now in Falls Church, Va., keeps her busy. She enjoys keeping in touch with her three daughters—one in Utah, another in Seattle, and the other nearby. "Dag" still vacations in Cape Cod in the same house that she enjoyed as a child. Now she takes pleasure in watching her grandchildren's joy in visiting there. ✳ **Jean Schmitt Fitzsimmons** says she's happy to be alive and able to continue her work as a psychotherapist in Birmingham, Mich. She also enjoys observing two very different stages of childhood represented by her two grandchildren: son Sean's teenage daughter, Caitlin (16), and son Ian's son, Duncan (2.5). When we talked in the fall, Jean was hoping to visit **Eleanor Flandreau Josset** at her home near Middlebury. They were roommates in the Château all four years at Midd. ✳ **Jim Beck** reports a quiet retirement, including "tennis, golf, watching three grandsons grow to become solid citizens, and trying to keep the wife and myself healthy." ✳ **Tom** and Marilyn Mulholland '49 **Jacobs** finally threw in the towel and retired from business in 2004. They had founded Reliable Racing Supply and Inside Edge Ski & Bike Shop as a rental shop in the 1960s, when West Mountain Ski Center opened in Queensbury, N.Y., near Glens Falls. They later moved their store to downtown Glens Falls and incorporated Reliable Racing as a direct-mail enterprise, publishing several catalogs. With their retirement, their youngest son, John '78, was appointed president of the enterprise. Marilyn and Tom continue to maintain a busy lifestyle with skiing, golf, cycling, and civic interests. They maintain a second home on Amelia Island, Fla. ✳ Last September, no fewer than seven of our classmates attended Alumni College at Bread Loaf: **Don** and **Pat Ray Christiansen**, **Phil** and **Phyllis Cole Deming**, **John** and **Helen Reid Gilmore**, and **Will Jackson** (along with wife Carolyn Bennett Jackson '61). For the Gilmores this followed a great summer vacation at the Basin Harbor Club with son Bob and his wife, Amy. At Alumni College, Helen was pleased to reconnect with upperclassman Rachel Adkins Platt '49 and husband George. On the health front, John had a back operation in August and was recovering very nicely. The Gilmores were surprised to learn that **Marge Mering Sherman** was living in the same New London, N.H., complex as **Dick Perry** and his wife. Dick, incidentally, was recently honored at a retirement party at the complex. ✳ The 2004 Gordie Perine Golf Tournament brought **Ed** and **Jean Maintain Higgins** back to campus. This year Ed was teamed with Dick Allen '53 on the course. That combination produced honors with a low net score among all golfers participating in the event. Congratulations to Ed and Dick! Also in town as spectators were **Joan Allen Armour** and **Ellie Hight Morris**, keeping an eye on golfers Norm Armour '53 and Irv Morris '53. ✳ The Christiansens were anticipating another cruise, this time up the Maine coast, "around the corner," and up the St. Lawrence River. As for the Higginses, they were headed to Tuscany, Italy, in late November. Both excursions sounded wonderful. ✳ With regret we must report the passing of **John Clayton** on May 19, 2003, and of **Frank Nicholson** on May 24, 2004. On behalf of the entire class, we would like to express our sincere condolences to both their families.

—Class Secretaries: *Charlotte Clark Hay (Mrs. David W.) (dchay22@webtv.net), 4454 Shady Ct., Rolling Meadows, IL 60008; and Robert DeLaney (wooded@together.net), 1131 River Rd., New Haven, VT 05472.*

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Cynthia Fuguet Shurtleff sent a beautiful picture postcard of Mt. Constance, viewed from their vacation cabin near Hood Canal in Washington. She and pediatrician husband Dave are semi-retired and enjoying life. ✳ **Lorna Bowlby West** spent time with **Jane Rupp Cooke** and husband Jim before and after her annual trip from Cornwall, England, to her summer home in Canada. ✳ While "back East" in September, **Betty Bates McCord** and her daughter and two granddaughters also visited with the Cookes: "They treated us to a 'lobster feast,' as my five-year-old granddaughter proclaimed it—and it was!" ✳ **Mardy Peck Burgess** and partner Al Brown took grandson Bryce (11) on an Elderhostel trip to Iceland, with other children and grandparents. "We stayed on a farm, took bird- and whale-watching trips, and visited hot springs, glaciers, and caves. It was a great trip." ✳ **Sally Baldwin Utiger** is still busy on the tennis courts, running two national grass court tournaments in Newport, R.I., last summer. ✳ **Bill** and **Ruth Shonyo Trask** had a busy year, with two sons getting married. Their granddaughter is already 23. They also look forward to planning our 55th Reunion! ✳ Your secretary Jeanne met **Bob Woodbury** and wife Joan in his hometown church in Beverly Farms during their summer stay in Essex, Mass. I was also happy to talk with **John Roy** and help his daughter find housing in Beverly when she started a new teaching position in the area. John is retired and doing well in Cohasset. ✳ **Liz Loemker Furber** and husband Ed '51 spent several days visiting Peter and **Ruth Eldredge Race** at their summer place on the shore of Hebron Lake in Monson, Maine. "Great walking, talking, eating—and even an airplane ride around Moosehead Lake! They joined us in Southport for Pete's annual Boothbay fix, checking up on past relatives." ✳ Your secretary, Joe, returned to Middlebury the weekend after Labor Day to attend the Annual Gordon Perine Alumni Golf Tournament. There were 90 of us. The largest group represented the Classes of 1951, 1952, and 1953. **Ken Nourse** commented that for the last few years he and Fred Neuberger '50 have played golf against **Steve Baker** and **Bill Huey**—and have never lost. I'm sure that this statement will be challenged by his two good friends. ✳ The Rev. **Paul Faris**, who recently celebrated his 84th birthday, has been retired for four years, but is still preaching the Gospel at two assisted living homes. ✳ On a sad note, **Dick Eddy** died on September 22 in Savannah, Ga. He had a very successful business career in Connecticut and moved to Savannah in 1997. He was a great friend and supporter of Middlebury and will be sorely missed. Our condolences to his wife, Joyce, and his son and two daughters. Our sympathy also goes to the families of **Margaret Nasmith Wedge**, who passed away in March, and of **Carl Bergfors**, who passed away in August.

—Class Secretaries: *Jeanne Parker Cahill, 10 Old Planters Rd, Beverly, MA 01915; and Joe Davis (sensei@valley.net), P.O. Box 3, The Ridge, Orford, NH 03777.*

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Millard Davis was invited by the Thoreau Society to speak at a celebration of the sesquicentennial of the publishing of *Walden*. Bill gave a talk on Thoreau and Edwin Way Teale (who published two books on Thoreau) at Trail Wood, Teale's Connecticut place. The paper Bill wrote is available on the Internet, courtesy of the Univ. of Conn. ✳ **Marion Seymour** continues to enjoy her life in New Mexico, where she lives in an intergenerational co-housing community. ✳ The sympathy of the class is extended to the family of **Guttorm Berge**, who died on March 13, 2004, in Norway. A memorial appeared in the fall issue.

—Class Secretaries: *Verne Goodwin (vpgoody@aol.com), 4410 Columbine Dr., Vail, CO 81657; and Ann Golding Davis (sensei@valley.net), P.O. Box 3, The Ridge, Orford, NH 03777.*

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Secretary Nickerson reports: **Jaycee Cole Miller** and I went back up to Middlebury in September to the Alumni Leadership Conference, where we thoroughly enjoyed the fall scenery and some very inspiring talks. President Liebowitz spelled out his vision for the College during the next several years, writer Julia Alvarez and prof. Eric Davis entertained and enlightened us, plus a student/faculty panel truly impressed us. ✳ Comments continue to come in about our 50th. **Leah Wallat Odden** writes: "I wanted to thank everyone involved in our 50th Reunion. It was super. Following that we took a quick trip to Quebec City (which I'd never visited) and thoroughly enjoyed it. After surviving three of the four hurricanes, we escaped the last one (Jeanne), due to my mother's funeral in Connecticut." ✳ **Sally Green Risberg** writes: "What a fabulous '54 reunion. Middlebury attended to every detail and made our weekend so special. Perfect surroundings, events, and food to create the background for the meetings of old (and new) friends. Don and I left Vermont for a trip down the East Coast, seeing family and friends, and then spent a week in Disney World with our son and family. Four days later, we flew to Alaska for a Cruise West trip of the Inside Passage and the mainland. We loved it and highly recommend the small size cruise ship for this trip. Then three weeks later, I left with six women friends for a riverboat cruise down the Danube to the Black Sea, learning so much about Hungary, Croatia, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, and Romania, and how those countries have struggled under communism and dictators. Such a new appreciation and understanding of this part of the world." ✳ **Priscilla Kelley Sadler** reported plans for a cruise to the Panama Canal. "After a wonderful 50th, followed by a wet summer, we're headed back to Florida early to be sure our votes get counted." ✳ Tom and I are always looking for news. Please help us keep this column exciting—the first thing you read when you open this magazine!

—Class Secretaries: *Mrs. Robert B. Nickerson (Nancy Whittemore) (nancy@nickersons.org), 4 Osprey Ln., Mystic, CT 06355; and Mr. Thomas C. Ryan (trn@aol.com), 3 Knipp Rd., Houston, TX 77024.*

55 REUNION CLASS

By now all you '55ers should have received the wonderful 50th Reunion Yearbook. The committee headed by **Nancy Walker Faulkner** did a terrific job—what fun it's been to read about all our classmates! You probably noticed there were several people whose autobiographies were not included, but it's not too late to send one into the College. We plan to publish an addendum and are striving to get something from every classmate. So please, you procrastinators, send in your bios! Additionally, everyone will be receiving a 50th Anniversary Anonymous Questionnaire/Survey. We thought it would be very interesting to learn more about our classmates' lives and their views on a variety of topics. **Gail Howard Flanagan** will be collating the results and will have them in time for reunion. See you all in June!

—Class Secretaries: *Pat Hinman Makin (pmakin@adelphia.net), 11 Rockholm Rd., Gloucester, MA 01930; and Frank E. Punderson Jr. (pund@together.net), 1209 Cider Mill Rd., Middlebury, VT 05753.*

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The September Timberlock outing at the family camp of Barb and **Dick Catlin** on Indian Lake, N.Y., was an outstanding success. Timberlock campers, along with the Catlins, were John '55 and **Helen Starr Ackerman**, **Mark** and **Nancy Warner Benz**, **Kathie Lowrie Birkhaeuser**, Erik and **Jeanne Hauselmann Bolvinkel**, **Jeanne Savoye Breeden**, Jim and **Elizabeth Alexander Brierley**, Barbara and **John Chase**, Tom and **Sally Thomson Clark**, Wayne and **Margot Talmage Cliff**, Judy and **Guy Cote**, Liza and **Norm Crowder**, Allan and **Judy Tichenor Fulkerson**, **Linda Donk Gray**, Jack and **Ann Case Holt**, **Bill** and **Joan Mackinnon Houghton**, **Leigh Updike Johnson**, **Julia King**, **Lucy Boyd Littlefield**, **Ned** and Ellie Maier '57 **MacDowell**, John '55 and **Sara Beyer MacGowan**, Jack and **Wendy Buehr Murphy**, **Marita Mower Tasse**, and **Mona Meyers Wheatley**. During three days of beautiful Adirondack weather conditions, we were housed in individual cabins, tucked in the woods and equipped with propane lighting. Guided hikes, canoeing, swimming, and a trip to the unique Adirondack Museum provided entertainment. Some of us took an exciting white-water rafting trip down the upper Hudson River (a class III-plus rating, but no one went overboard). Guy Cote brought his restored Lyman motorboat and provided afternoon cruises on Indian Lake. Evenings were spent in the large rustic lodge with blazing fireplace, wine, and singing accompanied by Ned MacDowell on the keyboard and Tom Clark on the violin. Dick gave the group a short history of the Adirondack Park—at over six million acres, the nation's largest park. A great place, a great time, with wonderful people, who are ready to do it again. We did some preliminary planning for the 50th. Cochair Mona Wheatley emphasized the need to make personal contacts, in order to ensure a good turnout for our reunion in 2006. It's not too early to get started. ✷ Good news from **Diane White Matthews**: "In April 2004, my husband and I published a gardening book for this area of Texas, called *Diane's Garden Diary*. There have been parties and book signings by shopkeepers on Main Street, as well as several garden tours and some nice write-ups in local newspapers. It's all very exciting and fun. I wrote the text and took the photos. My spouse did all the computer labor." ✷ **Jane Affleck** (jhaffle@aol.com) is still spending half the year in Hawaii and half on Cape Cod. "I'm in the book, both places. Enjoyed lunch with **Lee Goodrich Tupman** on the Cape in October." ✷ It is with great sadness that we report the death of **Ginny Collins Emerson** on September 17. Ginny had been battling cancer for some time. Our sympathy goes to her husband, Joe, who said that "as long as our hearts beat and there is consciousness in our brains, she will survive, cherished."

—Class Secretaries: *William F. Houghton (willho@aol.com), 16940 Knolls Way, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023; and Mona Meyers Wheatley (mwheatley@wris.net), 32 Hummock Pond Rd., P.O. Box 3038, Nantucket, MA 02584-3038.*

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Works of **Wyman Rolph** were on display at Gallery 39 in Richmond, Va., in October. Included were pieces of high-fire stoneware and raku pottery. ✷ Last spring, **Drue Cortell Gensler** was recognized for her service as a term trustee at Middlebury for 10 years (1994–2004). Drue has also been a major supporter of both the theater department and the Program in Women's and Gender Studies. Her granddaughter, Aaron Gensler, has matriculated as a member of the Class of 2008. ✷ We're happy to report that **David Tuttle** survived four hurricanes, but he needs a new roof. He's looking forward to our 50th Reunion in two years!

—Class Secretaries: *Mary Ellen Bushnell (Bushnell@mit.edu), P.O. Box 504, Peterborough, NH 03458; O. Sam Morton (sammorton@aol.com), 12411 Perthshire Dr., Houston, TX 77013; and S. Wyman Rolph (s.rolph@comcast.net), 2329 Park Ave., Richmond, VA 23220.*

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Secretary Eaton reports: Contentious issues of how to spend money within the New Hampshire state budget continue to heat up wits, rhetoric, and demeanor. Common sense is elusive and often countered by a beguiling *want* list that goes well beyond the basic *needs* list. Does this ring true in your state? When asked how to bring sanity back to our spending habits, one noted economist commented that "human will isn't strong enough to accomplish a sweeping job of it. The one leveling accomplisher? A devastating depression that puts us all back to basics—a roof over our heads, heat to warm us, and food to eat." Think about it. What do you propose? And remember to send Steffi a postcard from your vacation or travels. ✷ In August, **Ann Alvord Groves** flew from Blacksburg, Va., to St. John, New Brunswick, then to Grand Manan, an island in the mouth of the Bay of Fundy. She stayed harborside at the Compass Rose. During the next five days and evenings, Ann and I (Steffi) roamed the island, devoured scrumptious seafood, talked with fellow visitors, and painted in watercolors. I am grateful to Ann for bringing me out of the Dark Ages of watercolor techniques to a place of fun and creativity. My cottage is all shingled now, making it much warmer and quieter. ✷ The Actors' Equity Foundation recently announced the **Roger Sturtevant** Musical Theatre Award, available to Equity membership candidates who have demonstrated outstanding abilities in the musical theatre field. The award was started by the family of casting director Roger Sturtevant, who passed away on June 29, 2003. ✷ Best wishes to **William Geenty**, who had successful open heart surgery last July and is enjoying retirement in Washington state.

—Class Secretaries: *Stephanie Eaton (stephanie.eaton@leg.state.nh.us), 243 Pleasant St., Littleton, NH 03561; Joseph E. Mohbat (jmohbat@msn.com), 551 Pacific St., Brooklyn, NY 11217; and Ann Ormsbee Frobose (frobose@llnl.gov), 2370 Meadowlark Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566.*

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"I loved our June reunion," **JoAnn Witmer Anderson** writes. "It was uplifting and worthwhile, and it was so nice to see everyone. The College did a phenomenal job of entertaining us, lobster fest and all." JoAnn continues as a food broker, a profession she has enjoyed for 25 years. She has been singing with a church choir since 1968. Husband **Ron Anderson**, retired and recovering from knee replacements, hopes soon to return to playing golf. Son David recently opened a new general surgery practice in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Daughter Carol lives in Danvers, Mass., with her husband and children. ✷ **Carolyn Parks Behr** (cbehr@adelphia.net) and **Pete Erbe** (hperbe@mindspring.com), 50th Reunion cochairs, have already met to brainstorm about June 2009. They would love to hear from any who are willing to take on large or small tasks for the Big Weekend. ✷ Middlebury resident **Eleanor "Pinky" Bliss,** whose summer place is on Missisquoi Bay at Highgate Springs in northwestern Vermont, recently helped form the Friends of Missisquoi Bay, an organization dedicated to improving and maintaining water quality and other environmental aspects of this beautiful 6,952-acre refuge. ✷ After leaving his corporate job, **Joel Boland** turned his interest in culinary matters into a part-time vocation as a certified personal chef. Most of his clients are busy two-career families. He takes his equipment into their homes for a day and prepares meals for a week (some are served fresh; the rest are frozen). ✷ Three years ago, **Dorothy "Willie" Williams Calkins** moved from the New York area to Cape Cod to be near her daughter and three grandchildren. "I bought a small condo in West Yarmouth and am enjoying life and have met wonderful people. I'm still playing a lot of tennis and am 'hooked' on Pilates. I have even started golf. Visitors are most welcome!" ✷ When **Bob Copp, Gerry Cozzolino, Rod Smith**, and **Bill Hussey** met for dinner in New Jersey, it was the first time they had all been together since graduation. Gerry and wife Rosemary had just returned from a trip to Australia, celebrating retirement after almost 40 years as prof. of mathematics at Cedar Crest College. Bob is mostly retired from his career in accounting, while Bill recently retired after 30 years as a chemistry prof./administrator at Brooklyn College. Rod is working for the state of New Jersey, content to remain on the job. All four enjoy being grandparents. ✷ Pat and **Fred Swan** recently visited Walt and **Barbara Hart Decker** in LaCrosse, Wis. Barbara writes, "We were lucky that the *Delta Queen* docked here on the Mississippi and they saw some of the welcome that riverboat travelers receive here. We would love to see any classmates who head this way." ✷ **Gail Meeson Elker** and husband Brad will be in NYC for his participation in the American Institute of Organbuilders annual convention. As the creator of the class banner for our 25th Reunion, Gail is pleased that it has been well cared for. About our 45th, she writes, "It was very well done; for example, I couldn't believe the lobster dinner! We've never been that spoiled before!" ✷ **Jan Martin Fenwick** reports: "Following that wonderful reunion, we spent summer in the brown hills of California and in rainy, green hills at our New Hampshire cabin on Lake Sunapee. We've had a peaceful summer, although in another way it's hard to be tranquil with the deaths escalating in Iraq. Our daughter, her husband, and

21-month-old are living with us temporarily while their home is being remodeled. Our son, back from Paris, is doing research at Stanford. We have a spare bedroom, so come and visit!" ✳ **Aliceanne Britain Griffin** writes: "Reunion was the best ever, from the glorious weather to the opportunity to see classmates who have enjoyed such interesting and varied lives." A piece of serendipity uncovered at reunion: Aliceanne learned that her granddaughter and the grandson of **Ginny Aretz Roberts** are in the same third-grade classroom this year! ✳ Recently moving from Yarmouthport to Plymouth, Mass., **Bob** and **Sue Chapman Hansen** regretted that closing the sale of their home prevented them from attending reunion. They will miss Cape Cod, but are pleased to live in a multi-featured 50-condo complex, near the ocean and closer to the homes of their son, their daughter, and grandchildren. ✳ **Anne Martin Hartmann** and husband George recently enjoyed a trip to the Czech Republic and Austria. Anne writes: "It was our first trip with 'OAT,' Overseas Adventure Travel. They are fair-priced and limit trips to 16 participants; we enjoyed that feature." ✳ Expert tennis player **Sue Work Knirsch** has been perfecting her computer skills this year, reporting that she is occasionally "ready to throw the darn thing out the window!" She and her husband always spend October in their Hilton Head condo, which they would be happy to rent to classmates. She writes that the fall is "absolutely gorgeous down there—still in the mid-70s, and much quieter since the tourists have gone home." ✳ **Nancy Smoller Le Floch**, of Châtel-Guyon, France, is again teaching college-level courses. As a gardener, she enjoyed the summer rain, in contrast with the heat wave that devastated areas of France last year. Her and Jean Pierre's oldest remarried in June. ✳ **Carol Sippel Monsees** writes: "The 45th was unbelievable! Truly, I was overwhelmed and in awe of the whole surroundings! There was much talk about attending the 50th—I hope we can rally all the troops for that one!" ✳ **Mary Hinsman Raymond** and **Pat Sherlock Davidson** recently traveled in Ireland, where a highlight was a performance at the Abbey Theatre in Dublin. Mary combined her 45th Reunion trip East with visits to family and friends. A volunteer "grassroots person" for various Democratic candidates, Mary has been elected a co-convener for the Albuquerque chapter of the Gray Panthers. She enjoys her golden retriever puppy, Lily. ✳ Class agent **Cynthia Haver Rigas,** grandmother of a preschool boy, has two new granddaughters (born June 14 and August 10). Cynthia serves on her town's open space acquisition committee, as well as a local land conservancy board, a library foundation board, and a major committee in her church, where she also sings and plays in a handbell choir. ✳ **Joel** and **Ginny Aretz Roberts** traveled to Loveland, Colo., for their son's Labor Day wedding at a dude ranch, where guests included bicoastal friends and family. "Even a bear put in an appearance at the reception, to the delight of our grandchildren." They also visited Joel's sister in Hot Springs, S.D., and friends in Butte, Mont. They thank all those who made the 45th Reunion possible. ✳ Figure-skating judge **Lee Lonsdale Schaffer** writes that husband Bill, son Teddy, son Sam, and his wife, Dana, are all teaching and/or studying in academia. Lee travels worldwide to judge figure skating competitions in singles, pairs, and ice dance. She has been a U.S. Figure Skating Association judge for 37 years. ✳ After 44 years running Sveden's of Cape Cod, with delicacies like fresh fish, lobsters, and many smoked products, Ron and **Nancy Frame Sveden** retired at the end of summer. Ron may remain in the seafood-smoking business in another capacity. To classmates they write, "Thank you for many happy years of providing you with our products. It has been an enormous pleasure, and we will miss all of our wonderful customers!" ✳ After reunion, **Ilse Benzien van der Bent** and husband Dieter vacationed on the Maine coast and in Pennsylvania and Ohio. A retired prof. of German and French, Ilse is VP of the Cincinnati Symphony Club; Dieter has retired as bassoonist with the Cincinnati Orchestra. They are vegetable gardeners and frequently host guests from Europe. ✳ Recent travels of **Virginia Schlosser Vaules** include a visit to the Great Minnesota Get Together (State Fair) on Labor Day Weekend, where she enjoyed a live broadcast of *A Prairie Home Companion*. A grandparent of four, Ginny writes: "I really enjoyed our 45th Reunion. If it didn't mean that I would be five years older, I would wish that our 50th were right around the corner."

—Class Secretaries: *Lucy Paine Kezar (lpkezar@rcn.com), 134 Main St., Kingston, NH 03848; and William W. Hussey (billhusseyMidd59@aol.com), 203 E. 72nd St., #6B, New York, NY 10021.*

60 REUNION CLASS

Dan '62 and **Ann Meeker Silver** enjoyed three family reunions this year. The first was a celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary in La Jolla, Calif., the others were weddings in the D.C. area and in San Diego. Ann especially enjoys her five grandchildren. They also get away from home in Scarsdale, N.Y., to spend time in their vacation house in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. ✳ **Susan Long Brock** spends her summers in Boothbay Harbor, Maine, escaping the heat and humidity of Tidewater, Va. During summer, she works one day a week in a friend's yarn shop, spending her pay to stock up on great yarns for the rest of the year. Back home in Williamsburg, Susan volunteers in the concierge office of the Williamsburg Inn, where she got to say hello to Margaret Thatcher, a frequent visitor. ✳ As part of the summer vacation, Bob and **Betsy Cilley Goeke** of Winchester, Mass., spent a week at Adirondack Mountain Club's Cold River Camp, their 26th year there. In September they were in the Canary Islands, where Bob presented a paper on the Coral Reef Satellite at an electronics symposium. Betsy volunteers at the Saugus Ironworks NHS and the Museum of Science. ✳ After retiring in 2002 from teaching at the Univ. of Manitoba, Herb and **Judy Richardson Weil** moved to Victoria, B.C., where they can be out-of-doors all year. This year included conferences in New Orleans and Stratford-on-Avon, Herb's 50th reunion at Yale, and the welcoming of two more grandchildren. ✳ **Lindy Hill Reed** reports from Colorado that she recently spent three and a half weeks in western Australia, on a tour emphasizing birds, animals, and wildflowers. She reports the country is beautiful, the people friendly. It's like stepping back into the '50s—empty two-lane roads (once you get away from Perth), small vehicles, relaxed pace, "no worries!" She also had two trips East this year, joining the "March for Women's Lives" (for reproductive choice) in Washington, D.C., and a more leisurely trip with her daughter's family, during which she finally got to show off Midd. ✳ Diane and **John Karlik** alternate their time between home in Bethesda and their retreat on Deep Creek Lake in westernmost Maryland (almost West Virginia). In summer he rows, windsurfs, and sails, and occasionally goes fishing. In winter he hauls wood and skis, both downhill and X-C. They have been retired for a year, Diane from teaching French and Spanish in the Montgomery County Schools and John from the International Monetary Fund in D.C. For over 20 years, John commuted year-round by bicycle from outside the Beltway to downtown D.C. He's still active in the major local road cycle touring club. ✳ **Jim Coward** is very busy as prof. of medicinal chemistry at the Univ. of Michigan in Ann Arbor. ✳ Congratulations to Patsy and **Leon Vancini** of Johns Island, S.C., who were married in June on the beach at DeBourdieu. With the Atlantic Ocean at their backs, the ceremony was officiated by the Rev. Laurie Furr-Vancini and witnessed by families and five invited "strays." He gained two teenage daughters and a dog, which are causing important changes in lifestyle. Lee notes that Patsy is a very successful real estate broker on Seabrook Island, which bodes well for his eventual retirement. ✳ Congratulations also to **Graham Nye**, who has remarried. He and Jacqui now live in Cranston, R.I. You can contact them at gnye@prexar.com. ✳ Remember to send Jean Seeler an e-mail, so your correct e-mail address can be included in our 45th Reunion Class Directory.

—Class Secretaries: *Jean Seeler (jeandave@mindspring.com), 1529 Steeple Ct., Trinity, FL 34655; Dick Wilkinson (moviejhope@aol.com), 992 Sherwood Forest Rd., Annapolis, MD 21401; and Jan Fisher Barstad (proimage@amug.org), 2107 S. Ventura Dr., Tempe, AZ 85282.*

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With the recent completion of the Kerr-McGee merger with Westport, **William Wallace** was elected to the Kerr-McGee board of directors. ✳ **Lois Ryman Lewis** is enjoying semi-retirement—and being "grandma" to three grandsons and one granddaughter!

—Class Secretary: *Steve Crampton (scrampton@aol.com), 259 Hines Point, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568.*

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Robert Livingston retired from a long career in education in June 2000. "Having taught students from third grade to seniors in college, I am now focusing on selling rare and used books. I'm also codirector of Camp Lincoln, a boys' summer camp in the Adirondacks. Our son, Doug '01, married Kate Green (from England) on June 25, 2004. They are living near Asheville, N.C.

—Class Secretaries: *Liza Dunphy Fischer (bfisch@msu.edu), 11630 Center Rd., Bath, MI 48808; Bill Dalsimer (dalsimer@optonline.net), P.O. Box 1316, Southampton, NY 11968; and Judy Bosworth Roëssel (jbozroesset@aol.com), 11909 Arch Hill Dr., Austin, TX 78750.*

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Carol Nieter Ackerman is very active these days as vice chair of the Rockport Chamber Music Festival, entering its 24th year of providing beautiful music each June in Rockport, Mass. ✳ **Robert Clarke** was recently named to the board of trustees at Western New England College. Bob is past president of Chase, Clarke, Stewart & Fontana General Insurance Agency in Springfield, Mass. He and wife Holly live in Longmeadow, Mass. ✳ **Ron** and **Mary Auryansen Gambolati** survived hurricanes Frances and Jeanne in September, their first hurricanes since they moved to Florida in 1995. "Ron continues to enjoy his part-time retirement career as a substitute teacher. His job gives us flexibility to

travel. We spent February and March 2004 in New Zealand, when our younger son was married there. He's teaching near Auckland. Our daughter and son-in-law live in Virginia with our grandson (2.5). Our older son and daughter-in-law, who live near us in Florida, had a baby girl in October." ✷ **Charles MacCormack**, president and CEO of Save the Children Federation, was on campus in October as a participant in a daylong conference titled "The Privatization of American National Security." ✷ The condolences of the class are extended to the family of **Preston Talcott**, who died on July 16. A memorial appeared in the fall issue. ✷ Please note the new address for Secretary White. **Chris** and Susan Blume '68 **White** will no longer be making those 12-hour treks from Cranberry Island, Maine, to Scottsville, N.Y. They sold their Scottsville home and bought a new winter place in Bucksport, Maine. It's in the country, facing a river—and it's located just 45 minutes from Northeast Harbor, the jumping-off point for Cranberry. The first thing Chris did, of course, was buy a season pass to Sugarloaf!

—Class Secretaries: *Christopher J. White (crnbrycst@aol.com), 347 Duck Cove Rd., Bucksport, ME 04416; and Janet Brevoort Allen-Spencer (janballen@att.net), 2 Arizona Pl., Huntington Station, NY 11746.*

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Judge **Jeff Sprigman** recently stopped by for a short visit with **Kit Telfair Wright** at her office in Ocean City, N.J. "As there are only about three class members in south Jersey, this meeting qualified as a mini-reunion. We shook hands on a promise to make it to our 45th Reunion." Kit has a grandson (3) in Vermont and a granddaughter (1) in Texas. She writes: "Thank goodness for digital cameras and e-mail! I can watch them grow when I can't actually be with them." ✷ **Chet Meyer** submitted an update in late summer: "June and I left NYC and live in upstate New York now, even though the New Jersey high school in which I teach British and American literature and the study of film is 100 miles away. I figure another year or two before I retire—or commuter insanity sets in. June just retired from (and closed) Facial Dynamics, her skin-care business that she had in NYC for 25 years. I'm writing whenever possible and selling the book I co-wrote (*The Tooth Fairy Legend: The Touch of Kindness*). It's a read-along-and-listen book that helps to teach reading as well as tell a wholesome story with accompanying songs. A few weeks ago, another lyricist and I won the Dramatists Guild of America's lyrics contest." Congratulations, Chet, for being recognized for what you do by a group of industry professionals! ✷ **David Holmes** has joined the Foundation for Excellent Schools staff as VP for programs. The Foundation for Excellent Schools is located on Route 30 in Cornwall, Vt. ✷ **Marian Demas Baade** had a difficult summer. Her elderly mother (93), who had been ill for many months, passed away at the end of August. We send our sympathy to Marian and her family.

—Class Secretary: *Marian Demas Baade (mcbaade@aol.com), 4 Red Rock Rd., New City, NY 10956; and John Vecchiolla (vecchiolla@juno.com), 193 Byram Rd., Greenwich, CT 06830.*

65 REUNION CLASS

Ann Knowlton Farrell retired in June from her position as finance manager with the Arlington County Department of Family Services. She writes: "Our new home here in Denver was just completed and boxes and wrapping paper are everywhere! We have moved to Denver to be near our two adult children and three grandchildren. Daughter Marie has twins (2 yrs.) and son Jeb has a daughter (4 mos.). We provide some child care for the grands and enjoy watching them blossom and grow! Colorado's sunshine is great for all sorts of things." ✷ **Mindy Wright Colquitt** is still teaching high school non-Western history. Her summer included a trip to China and the marriage in August of son Andrew and Besrat Gebrewold. Mindy sees **Carol Dickerman** and **Gail Tideman Murphy** regularly, **Prue Frey Heikkinen** occasionally. ✷ The condolences of the class are extended to Floyd Orr, who wrote to inform us of the death of his wife, **Judy McCandliss Orr**, on November 12, 2003. He wrote from Redlands, Calif.: "Her death was the consequence of breast cancer, first discovered in 1987, and which she lived with courageously for many years. Her love and pride for Middlebury came up frequently in our conversations over the years. Judy's love of learning never diminished. She continued to read, grow, mentor, and question to the end."

—Class Secretaries: *Polly Moore Walters (Mrs. Kenneth) (polly@frii.com), 100 Grandview Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80521; and R.W. "T" Tall Jr. (ahmic@shoreham.net), 204 Clark Rd., Cornwall, VT 05753.*

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Sally Sise is living in Vergennes, Vt., teaching half time in Addison and maintaining a private practice in Zero Balancing and craniosacral therapy. She enjoys being closer to grandchildren. ✷ **Stephen Curtis** is reportedly concerned about the financial future of community colleges. Speaking to the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, he outlined the difficulties when state aid continues to decline while enrollment and the economy steadily improve. Enrollment last fall at the Community College of Philadelphia, where he is president, was nearly 20,000—a 22 percent increase since 1999. Stephen hopes that private fund-raising will offset the tuition increases. He and wife Sharon have three grown children, as well as two young adopted children. ✷ **Lynn Baird Shaw** recently became the executive director of Business Advisers of Cleveland, a small nonprofit that provides business consulting services for startup and existing organizations. Her varied career has included stay-at-home mom to three children, map editor at a Boston textbook publishing company, 14 years in various positions at United Way Services, and director for NBD International (an evaluation and restoration firm for homes and businesses). Lynn and husband Russell live in Aurora, Ohio. ✷ **Gordon McAleer** reports that his family experienced profound sadness last summer with the passing of their five-month-old grandson, Finnian Ry McAleer. A child with an engaging smile and Irish twinkle in his eye, Finn died from a rare and fast-moving form of muscular dystrophy. Sadly, Gordie writes, it was not meant to be for him to enjoy a full life. The baby's parents, Brant and Jen McAleer, are adjusting to this setback in their lives. On a happier note, daughter Kate is spending her senior year in high school in Beijing, under the terrific School Year Abroad program. Gordie and Donna now have every reason to travel to the Far East, to connect with Kate and explore this part of the world. ✷ The news from **Lee Hall Delfausse** is that she continues to teach American literature at a private school in Concord, N.H. Last summer, she and daughter Sarah won a national mother-daughter tennis championship at the Newport Tennis Hall of Fame. In the course of the tournament they beat the number one and number two teams in the country, from California and Florida. As well as enjoying tennis recreationally, Lee and husband Peter also travel the world with their ASTI tennis tour business.

—Class Secretary: *Francine Clark Page (page@pshift.com), 19 Brigham Hill Ln., Essex Junction, VT 05452.*

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Middlebury magic ensured a beautiful, fall weekend for Homecoming, the new library dedication, and the presidential inaugural in early October. A hearty group of classmates gathered—both at the football game and at the Patterson's Lake Dunmore camp—for reunion comradery, shared enjoyment of athletics (Midd Blue on the playing fields at the foot of colorful mountains is spectacular, win or lose!), intellect (the College historian welcomed President Liebowitz with amusing and delightful anecdotes from our storied past), and nostalgia (Saturday night's a cappella fest in the chapel included "Old Songs" to our delight). Enjoying each other, our ever-more-handsome campus, and reunion activities were Bill and **Sue Rugg Parmenter**, Chris and **Joanne Hall Johnston**, Barb and **Jim Adams**, **Susan Freier Geisenheimer** (up to inspect her endowed study carrel in the new library), **Peter Kovner** (celebrating 50 years of college soccer with teammates), and **Susie Davis Patterson**. ✷ **John Plant** wrote recently from West Jeddore, Nova Scotia, where he and wife Jocelyn Fleury "spend our summers in blissful, foggy solitude. My opera *The Shadowy Waters*, based on Yeats, will be performed in concert on February 26 at the Oscar Peterson Concert Hall in Montreal, with accompaniment of piano, percussion, and harp. (For tickets, call 514-790-1245.) The role of Dectora will be sung by Jocelyn, to whom the opera is dedicated. Her role in helping bring this difficult—but, I hope, rewarding—baby into the world cannot be overestimated. The summer has been spent in revisions, finding musicians and singers, and writing harp and percussion parts. It's perhaps a blessing in disguise that this has been the foggiest summer in several centuries, it seems. Thanks to an inheritance from Jocelyn's Aunt Rose, we have replaced the decrepit old shack (beloved, but increasingly untenable) with a lovely, long, skinny mini-home. Every room overlooks the sea, and she and I have studios on opposite ends, so she can sing while I compose. We intend to move here for good before too long. Both of us feel very strongly that this is our real home. I'm still teaching at St George's School and Concordia Univ. and getting immense pleasure from both, but looking forward to being able to compose all year long, all day long. ✷ Since the fall of 1991, coeds of our class have been getting together in the Northeast for a weekend of fun activities and renewed connections. This year, our largest group by far—18—met at Joanne Hall Johnston's lovely (and thankfully) large home in Marblehead, Mass. Not even Hurricane Ivan could dampen our spirits. We toured Marblehead in cars, on foot, and on bikes, ate delicious food—including a feast of local lobsters—celebrated real, bogus, and dreaded birthdays, compiled lists of suggested good books and interesting movies, and compared notes on digital camera research, health initiatives, and hormones. When the rain got too heavy on Saturday afternoon, we gathered in Joanne's livingroom to play Scattergories, with categories brainstormed by **Judy VanNostrand Sturgis** and Susie Davis Patterson on the golf course the day before. Topics included the Crest Room, Midd professors, dorm rooms,

Winter Carnival, frats and sororities, and our perennial favorite, men of '67. Comparing answers and memories was the most fun. Attending this year were **Joan Viehdorfer Roller**, **Margot Childs Cheel**, **Judy Van Nostrand Sturgis**, **Susie Davis Patterson**, **Elaine Dunphy Foster**, **Helen Martin Whyte**, **Sue Rugg Parmenter**, **Kathie Towle Hession**, **Marion Boultbee**, **Susan Schweickert Macy**, **Livvy Barbour Tarleton**, **Cathy Buck Leary**, **Freddie Mahlmann**, **Connie Reynolds Davis**, **Clare Tweedy McMorris**, **Jervis Lockwood Anderson**, **Susan Weaver Sullivan**, and **Joanne Hall Johnston**. We will meet next September in Sunapee, N.H., at Judy VanNostrand Sturgis's condo on the golf course. Please contact Judy or Susie to get on the e-mail list and arrange your life around this weekend. What a great way to celebrate our collective 60th birthdays!

—Class Secretaries: *Susan Davis Patterson (sdp@alumni.middlebury.edu), 67 Robinson Pkwy., Burlington, VT 05401; and Alex Taylor (alex_taylor@fortunemail.com), 325 W. 86th St., #8B, New York, NY 10024.*

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As of August 21, 2004, **C.J. Wikstrand** and husband Jim Lewis are ex-pats, residing in Sint Maarten, Netherlands Antilles, Leeward Islands, West Indies: "Contrary to various rumors, we are not just a step ahead of the local constabulary, federal agents, nor even more alarming, the Duke trustees; we emigrated with the state of North Carolina's official, duly-attested 'good moral fiber' certificates. Surprise to you all. We have accepted faculty positions at the American University of the Caribbean (where I'll be teaching immunology), and anticipate a great deal of sailing in our not-in-class time. We've been considering this for a long time. Would like to earn money where we like to sail. These excellent teaching positions literally fell into our laps, so we're off to the 12-meter sailing capital of the eastern Caribbean. Psyched." Her new e-mail address is islandposs@yahoo.com. ✳ **Robert Friedman** rode in the two-day, 192-mile, Pan Mass Challenge bikeathon, a fund-raiser for the Jimmy Fund and the Dana Farber Cancer Clinic. The ride in August 2004 was Bob's fifth ride, and he hoped to raise donations of $15,000 towards his 2004 ride, having raised more than $45,000 during his previous four rides. Bob is a physician with a practice in internal medicine. ✳ Political correspondent **James Jardine**, of Lyndonville, Vt., has joined the newsroom staff of the *Caledonian-Record* newspaper, to cover the court beat and the political scene in the Northeast Kingdom and the North Country. ✳ **Julie Peterson** reported via e-mail in late June 2004: "I just lived through my first earthquake! We were awakened about 1:10 AM, June 29, by shaking: the bed, the room, the whole house (whole town, whole area). We could hear everything rattling. Luckily, no damage was discovered or reported. We also live just a few miles from the site of the deadly April tornado that hit Utica, Ill. I'm wondering if there's a third natural disaster or phenomenon on the way?!" ✳ Julie also reported news from **Barb Faelten Burley**, who is rejuvenating her avocation as a skater. While she is short, about 5 ft. 2 in., her husband, Craig, is 6 ft. 4 in.! He's now taking skating lessons, too, having started just a couple years ago as a beginner (with 8-year-olds), whereas Barb was an accomplished skater just picking it up again. If memory serves us correctly, she did some performing while an undergraduate. Barb reports the following about the New England ISI District Competition on Friday, June 25, 2004, in which she and Craig participated: "We had a blast. I received first place in the two events I entered (four in each event), and Craig got a second place in his (competing with one other man). We were both happy with everything. And it was a great experience for us; we both feel it pushed us to improve, and we both have ideas about other improvements to work on. The adults competing are generally quite friendly and supportive. It was a great atmosphere." ✳ **Jim Barnes** has been appointed deputy regional director for Region 1 (New England Region) of the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development. Jim, began his 33rd year with HUD this September. He relocated to the Boston office in 1999, after spending 20 years in Chicago. He and wife Barb and their two golden retrievers reside in Boxford, Mass. ✳ Congratulations to **Dan Curry** for wining his seventh Emmy, for Best Visual Effects for a Television Series, for *Star Trek Enterprise*. He recently flew to Germany, where he was invited to deliver a couple of lectures on the history of visual effects and on *Star Trek* in general. ✳ **Ed Goldberg** recently earned the ChFC (Chartered Financial Consultant) designation. He had previously earned the CFP (Certified Financial Planner) designation. Ed has a financial planning practice with Sagemark Consulting in Windsor, Conn. Ed also reports that he too had a fabulous time at our 35th Reunion back in June of 2003. (Ed rhetorically asks, "Who woulda thunk it?") Ed also wanted to make the following addendum note to **Pete Knobler**'s letter in a recent column about Pete's son, Daniel, the emerging guitar player: "Five years ago, when Daniel was only 10 and starting to play the guitar, I had Pete and Daniel come to see my son Mike's band play in the Simsbury High School Battle of the Bands. (Yes, they won.) You're probably thinking 'how cute.' Mike and the other members of his band were also in the jazz band at the school. They were—are—all accomplished musicians. They were also playing gigs out at the time, too, so they were really quite good. Anyway, before they broke down the equipment in my basement, Daniel had the opportunity to jam with these guys. At 10, he was good enough and had the presence enough and the chutzpah enough to get up there and play with these guys, who were gracious enough to literally wrap themselves around Daniel's guitar and voice (yes he sings, too) and give him a great musical experience. Later that night, at the post Battle party (always at the Goldbergs' house, of course), when Pete finally got Daniel to go to bed, all the guys shook Daniel's hand and said "nice jamming with you." Pete told me later that Daniel was thrilled. What 10-year-old kid wouldn't be? A couple of years ago, Pete and Jane and Daniel came to visit, and Mike and Daniel jammed together—some jazz, some blues, some rock—for quite awhile in my family room. Several times I had to look to see who was playing what. At times I could not tell them apart by their playing. My son won best guitarist at Battle of the Bands for five years in a row, meaning the first time he won it he was in eighth grade, not even in the high school yet, and here was this young upstart staying right with him. Very cool, Daniel. As a P.S., Mike's band, Groove & 37th, still gets together a couple of times a year to play gigs in the local honky tonk. I fear the last time they played in August may indeed have been their last—different schools, starting careers, etc. But like Pete, watching my son play music, and really good music, has been one of life's great thrills. I suspect Daniel may have a career ahead of him in music."

—Class Secretaries: *Barbara Ensminger Stoebenau (Barbara_stoebenau@merck.com), 6 Timber Fare, Spring House, PA 19477; and Bentley Gregg (gregg.bentley@epamail.epa.gov), 418 East St. NE, Vienna, VA 22180.*

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Ginny Hopper Hoverman writes that she and **Jim** have moved to a house on the outskirts of Middlebury: "A cute, cozy house in the woods. I am a mortgage broker with Residential One Mortgage, LLC. I enjoy yoga classes, chair the finance committee of my church, and serve on the board of the Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op. Jim is a health coach, providing diet and exercise plans, Reiki, and massage therapy." ✳ **Bill Bethke** writes that 2004 turned out to be a busy year for them: "Son Brian '01 launched a guitar pedal company (www.pigtronix.com) from his home base in Shenzhen, China. Daughter Cori was married at the top of Vail Mountain in July. She and her new husband joined Suzi, Brian, and me on a three-week 'familymoon' in Tibet, which included a five-day trek up to Camp 1 on Everest. Suzi and I squeezed in 60 days of skiing earlier in the year." In the fall, they were reportedly trying to get in shape for a new season.

—Class Secretaries: *Anne Harris Onion (onions@metro2000.net), P.O. Box 207, Gilmanton, NH 03237; and Peter Reynolds (preyn@wcvt.com), 64 Maple St., Bristol, VT 05443.*

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REUNION CLASS Secretary Desrochers reports that he and Elsa (Parrington Desrocher) '71 were heading to Whistler for January and to Colorado for February, rounding out 60 days on the skis. ✳ **Carolyn Sega Lowengart** has been very happily retired for over a year, after 33 years working for the Department of State, mostly on the staff of the Under Secretary for Management. "While I had a very exciting (and equally stressful) career, it's the best decision I ever made. I'm having a lot of fun in my new condo apartment in Chevy Chase, Md., within blocks of great restaurants and stores and the metro in Bethesda, and with all the delights of Washington, D.C., just a couple of miles away. Philip (Flip) and I were divorced this past May. Since retirement, I've done some traveling (mostly driving) around the U.S., and visited family in London. I'm hoping to go back again early in 2005. Next week I'm off to a gathering of new friends in Florida, since our hotel wasn't devastated by any of this year's hurricanes. I'd love to hear from old friends and classmates at clowengart@msn.com." ✳ A newspaper clipping informs us that **Bill Wallace** was recently elected to the Kerr-McGee board of directors. ✳ **Paul "Rat" Reed** writes from Stowe, Vt., where he has been since 1973: "Great wife and two boys, both skiers. The older is Clayton '08, a freshman at Middlebury." ✳ **Paul Batiza** is managing his father's affairs and monitoring his care at an assisted living facility. He writes: "As a trial lawyer with Batiza, Godofsky, Penzato, Schroeder & Ford, the in-house lawyers for Louisiana's largest physician insurer, I can pursue what has turned out to be my professional passion—visualizing the path to a successful defense and making it happen in the courtroom. See you at the reunion." ✳ **Tom Pierson** has been all over the national news (*Today* show, etc.), as the volcanologist covering the activity at Mount St. Helens. We hope to see Tom at reunion in June, when we will all be interested to hear some firsthand volcano news. Another reason to mark your calendars for June 3–5, 2005, and make plans to be in Middlebury for our 35th Reunion!

—Class Secretaries: *Dr. David Desrochers (daveandelsa*

@earthlink.net), 599 Blackbeards View, Bath, NC 27808; and Andy Wentink (awentink@middlebury.edu), 1571 Rt. 30, Cornwall, VT 05753.

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Jim Keyes, who joined Citizens Bank two years ago as executive VP of commercial lending, has been promoted to president of Citizens Bank's 27-branch Charter One operation in Vermont. Jim reported (in the Rutland *Business Journal)* that the name of the 27-branch Vermont operation had not been finalized, but that it will include the Citizens name, and all the Vermont branches will be retained. Prior to joining Citizens Bank, Jim was president and CEO at First Vermont Bank in Brattleboro. Jim is also serving on the board of trustees at the College. ✷ After 30 years, **Jim Glynn** has retired from teaching in Peterborough, Ontario. He taught at the former Grove and King Edwards schools, Five Counties Children's Centre, and Armour Heights, among others. For the past 10 years, he has taught at Adam Scott Intermediate and Collegiate Schools, where he is returning as the school's hockey coach. Jim's wife, Deborah, teaches kindergarten; son Andy (19) attends Trent Univ.; daughter Sarah is in ninth grade. ✷ **Natasha Kempers-Cullen** welcomes everyone to her new Web site, www.natashakempers-cullen.com, where you will find out about her art quilts, classes, workshops, exhibitions, and more.
—Class Secretary: *Dr. Susan R. Thornton (thornton@hancock.net), 22 Vincent St., Binghamton, NY 13905.*

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David Kunhardt (davidkunhardt88@yahoo.com) updated us recently from his home in Corte Madera, Calif. Eight years ago, he joined Transamerica in the Pyramid in San Francisco to run a small group investing in affordable housing. The company was acquired by AEGON USA in 1999, but David continues with the same work and is expanding his staff to step up the pace: He hopes to end '04 at $1.2 billion invested in low income housing and historic tax credit properties across the country. Last year, he served as president of his professional peer group, the national Affordable Housing Investors Council, which has about 60 corporate members. On the home front, David and Susan added a fourth child to their household last year, with a second adoption from Almaty, Kazakhstan (having adopted in 2001 from the same Baby House in Almaty); they also have "bio kids" Peter and Lindsay. ✷ Fellow Californian **Betsy Coquillard White**, of Los Gatos, reports that, with daughter Becca in her freshman year at Wake Forest Univ., she and Whizzer are now empty-nesters. The nest, however, is a temporary condo while their long-time home is rebuilt following a major fire last New Year's Eve. Fortunately, no one was hurt, but most of the house was a loss. We're all grateful that you and your family emerged unscathed, Betsy. ✷ From the East Coast, **Michael Schwartz** (jmkms@juno.com) sends this happy news from the Mission Hill neighborhood in Boston: "On May 21, the first week that it became legal to do so in the U.S., I married Jeff Knudsen, my partner of 14 years. For us, this was basically a political act, affirming our right of equal access to civil marriage." There were, he said, "no vows, no rings, no wedding gift registry—just state recognition of what has been a fact for us for 14 years." Michael is a technical writer for Teradyne, Inc.; Jeff is an environmental advocate with Clean Water Action; and both "spend time and money working for progressive political candidates, a few of whom actually manage to win." ✷ **Katharine Mulligan Lord** happily reports that daughter Katharine '00 was married on July 10 to Daniel Steppe at the Cornwall Church, near Middlebury, followed by a joyous reception under a tent at Hadley Barn. "We danced the night away to the Vermont Jazz Ensemble, followed by the same DJ that we'd used for our 25th Reunion. A great time was had by all, with over 50 Midd grads in attendance, including **Mary Kate Sullivan Cox**, **Sarah Pratt Nesbitt**, **Carlie Butcher Garonzik**, **Nancy Morgan Serpa**, **Becky Patterson Bruns**, and **Jani Halsted Franklin**. **Linda Reeves Pettit** was remembered more than once and well represented by her daughter and son, Sarah and Rob." ✷ **Cindy Wright Berlack** writes that she is "still in the haven of Franconia, N.H. My youngest just went to first grade, so I'm looking out into the world for avenues into which to throw myself next. For now, I'm substitute teaching and hiking to my heart's content." ✷ From the heart of the Midwest—actually the Minneapolis suburb of Deep Haven—comes an update from **Paul Marshall**, who keeps busy as neuropsychologist for the psychiatry department at the largest public hospital in Minnesota's Twin Cities. His work over the past 12 years with patients suffering from a variety of major mental illnesses has exposed him to "some of the saddest life stories you could ever imagine. Strangely, you get used to it, but it certainly makes me appreciative of what I have—and very motivated to reverse some of the recent political trends in this country." Paul and his wife, Sarah, are the parents of an active high school sophomore, son Chris, and a Middlebury sophomore, daughter Elizabeth (Izzy). Izzy is thoroughly enjoying Midd life and majoring in anthropology. Moving Izzy into her room in Stewart last year—one floor up from the room Paul shared with **Mike Reed** in our sophomore year—was "very strange," he reports. No doubt other Midd parents in our class have had similar sensations! Sarah is a full-time mom and community activist who "has been spending a great deal of her time working for the election of John Kerry, as have I," says Paul. ✷ Finally, some sad news from me (your Michigan correspondent, **Jennifer Hamlin Church**): My husband, Tracy, the light of my life for 14 years of marriage and about seven years before then, died August 30, after a seven-week battle with ferocious pneumonia, contracted (most likely) during a kidney transplant in June. Some of you know that Tracy had endured more than his fair share of medical challenges, but he was such a remarkably upbeat person, who never once let illness define him, that many people in his life never realized the obstacles he faced. I know that others in our class have lost spouses, and have survived, and I take comfort in that knowledge. As I write this, just four weeks after his death, the world is a very different and awfully sad place.
—Class Secretaries: *Jennifer Hamlin Church (jhchurch@sienahts.edu), 11151 Summerfield Rd., Petersburg, MI 49270; Judy Wingham (jwingham@bosleyrealestate.com), 417 Guildwood Pkwy., West Hill, ON M1E 1R3, Canada.*

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Guy Kettelhack (guyblakekett@aol.com) reports: "I moved back to my beloved Manhattan after a two-and-a-half-year stint in my hometown, Amityville, N.Y., taking care of my mother, who died a year ago July. Quite a trek going through that, emptying and selling the house, and adjusting to being The Last Kettelhack. Various writing projects engage me, the most peculiar of which has been a slew of poems, some of which, to my amazement, are gaining me a bit of recognition here and there, in various quarterlies and Web sites and competitions. Go figger. (Still playing the fiddle.)" ✷ With more than 300 quilts to her credit, Londonderry (N.H.) quilter **Virginia Guaraldi** creates both bed quilts and art quilts, although recently weddings and births have kept her busy making the more traditional quilts for friends and relatives. She has sent her children to college with their own quilts, and a recent project has been designing a wedding quilt for her daughter and son-in-law. She's also a board member of the New Hampshire Quilt Documentation Project, which works to maintain a written record of quilts in the state. ✷ **Lisa Lloyd Hobson** is in her third year as principal of a small elementary school (350 students in grades K-5). "At home, our kids are (almost) launched. Daughter Elizabeth (23) works at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Son Richard (21) attends the Univ. of Ariz. in Tucson and plays club soccer." ✷ **Thomas J. Storrs** was recently hired as director of urban design by the planning, engineering, and architectural firm of Morris & Ritchie Associates (MRA). As MRA's chief designer of high-rise buildings throughout the mid-Atlantic region, he'll lead design work on commercial projects, mixed-use centers, and urban development projects in the D.C. area. His previous projects have included the Museum of the Americas in D.C., the Baltimore Convention Center Hotel, Marriott's Orlando World Center, the Taba (Egypt) Resort Hotel, and InterContinental Hotels in Brussels and Vienna. ✷ **Lindy Osterland Sargent** reports that "10 Midd '73 friends got together for a second reunion—the first being 17 years ago, at which point we'd known each other half of our lives. Now that the kids are mostly grown up, we managed to get away for a whole weekend, just us—laughing and reminiscing, paddling on the Connecticut River, hiking amidst fantastic fall foliage, and sharing book/movie recommendations and stories. Enjoying the hospitality of **Kate Aring Piper**, in Waterford, Vt., and each other's great company were Lindy, Kate, **Jeannie Northrup Burditt**, **Alison Sommers Kennedy**, **Ria Torres Murphy**, **Betsy Benware Sessions**, Miranda and **Deborah Shinn**, **Loring Starr**, **Kris Bye Strandness**, and **Kathy Wilson**. We decided that the next gathering will be sooner than the last, and we'll hope to have a few more of our 'farther away' friends join the party!"
—Class Secretary: *Deborah Schneider Greenhut (writerDSG@comcast.net), 35 Patton Dr., East Brunswick, NJ 08816.*

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Secretary King reports: When I was reminded of the date these class notes were due, I went into panic mode. There was no way I could do them in time for publication! So, I leaned on **Lauren Singer Waite** and **Chris** and **Michaela Pontoppidan Granstrom**. They nicely complied, so you have something to read besides just addresses for your secretaries. I'm very grateful to them. ✷ Lauren reports that a very-mini-reunion of sorts took place on the Jeffrey Bittner '96 Terrace of the new library the first weekend of October, when a few of our classmates—who are parents of current Midd students—gathered during Family Weekend. It was fun to see **Steve** and **Vivienne Longo Trebino** (parents of Lisa '05 and Diana '08), Tom and **Elke Ostler Hanna** (Ben '08), and **Randy** and Kathy Cooper '77 **Lake** (Ethan '08). My husband, Peter, and I have two kids at Midd (Hillary '05 and Christopher '08). If the computer printout can be

trusted, there are seven children of our classmates in the class of 2008, four in 2007, two in 2006, and seven in 2005. I tried to get [illegible] Chris to introduce himself to Diana Trebino, who lives one floor above him in Stewart. His look confirmed that he thought I was crazy, which may not be so far off. After all, I probably don't even begin to understand the 2005 Midd social norms. But we did discover some connections amongst our children. Chris Waite and Ethan Lake are both on the Frisbee team, captained by Lisa Trebino. Ben Hanna and Chris, the only alumni kids who were dragged to Bittner Terrace, seemed to hit it off. And, perhaps without even knowing it, some of the others may have crossed paths. Other classmates with freshmen are **Andy Jackson** (Justine '08), **Mark Polebaum** (Jessica '08 and Katherine '06), and **Mike Schlegel** (Andrew '08). I'll look forward to seeing some of you at future family weekends and graduations. ✳ Chris and Michaela report that **Kris Hardy Kenlan** spent a week at the International Wolf Center in Ely, Minn., last summer, taking a graduate course in wolf ethology and working with wolf pups. She and Kevin '73 spent three August weeks in Alaska, sea kayaking in remote Kenai Fjords National Park and hiking and camping in Denali National Park. Kris spent the last week of their trip on an Outward Bound sea kayaking course in Prince William Sound. ✳ **Charlie** and **Ann Williams Jackson**, who have a house in Shoreham, Vt., continue their deep attachment to Midd. Son Sam is a senior, Nick is a sophomore at GW in D.C., and Lucy is a freshman in high school. Too soon to tell where she will head. Charlie works in private equity in Greenwich, while Ann left Time Inc. a year ago, after 23 years. They recently enjoyed a fabulous weekend in Midd, celebrating the 50th anniversary of soccer at the College. The event was organized by Frank Punderson '55, father of their sister-in-law, Ingrid '88 (who is married to Woody Jackson '70). ✳ Keeping it in the family, once again. Andy's daughter, Justine, starts at Midd in February, after a trip to Ghana where her brother, Rory, owns land. ✳ Sara Granstrom, who is a sophomore at Middlebury, brought 15 (count 'em) college friends out to the Granstrom farm on a Saturday in early October to help pick the grape harvest. What a delightful group of young people! And we're not saying that just because they worked really hard for the sole reward of having done it—and lunch. Our helpers also included Vermont Secretary of Agriculture Steve Kerr '75, who also worked hard and stayed long after the TV crew had left. (Growing grapes in Vermont seems to attract attention.) The grapes were trucked off to a nearby winery, where they are fermenting away. Come see us and we'll give you a taste.

—Class Secretaries: *Greg Dennis (gregdennis@adelphia.net), 1053 Hermes Ave., Encinitas, CA 92024; and Barry Schultz King (kinglet@together.net), P.O. Box 77, Ripton, VT 05766.*

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Thomas Rappa writes: "This year will be fondly remembered with several significant milestones. I am closing my law firm to become a full-time judge in the District and Family Division Court. My wife, Dianne, and I are celebrating our 25th anniversary. Son Christopher graduated from Lisbon High School as class valedictorian. Son Craig's baseball team went undefeated to garner the New Hampshire Class 5 Championship. Fun was had by all!" ✳ After Middlebury, **David Denyse** was a professional artist for 10 years before entering the work force in order to get benefits for his family. Although he had no formal theological training, he studied on his own and felt called to the ministry. Eventually, he was ordained by the clergy and congregation of the First Baptist Church in Foxboro, Mass. In Attleboro, David and wife Pam began the Lighthouse Community Church in a former movie theater, ministering to homeless people and people struggling with addictions. Last summer, he became the associate pastor at Fellowship Bible Church in Dedham, Mass., but he continues to hold a second full-time job. As an operations manager at Coca-Cola, he serves the McDonald's account in the New England and New York region. He recently reported in the *Dedham Times*, "I find it kind of amusing, because between the ministry, Coke, and McDonald's, I serve the three most recognized icons in the world." David and Pam have four children—Sean, Ashley, Aly, and Jordan—ranging in age from 15 to 22. ✳ **Kevin Donahue** has been promoted to president and CEO at Quabaug Corporation in North Brookfield, Mass. Kevin continues to oversee the operation of the company and the marketing of the Vibram brand. ✳ **Daniel Heller** (M.A. English '85), of Brattleboro, Vt., has written a book that questions the future of his own profession—teaching. *Teachers Wanted: Attracting and Retaining Good Teachers* outlines his observations about staffing problems facing schools and presents several possible solutions. Its publisher, the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, has sent the paperback free to almost 100,000 member educators worldwide. It can also be purchased from a bookstore.

—Class Secretaries: *Roger King (roger.king@softwarespectrum.com), 4128 Caruth Blvd., Dallas, TX 75225; and Paige O'Connell McGuire (paigellen@aol.com), 1134 Waterloo Rd., Berwyn, PA 19312.*

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Gary Gray and wife **Patty Forbes** got together with Russ '74 and **Jeannie Zarker Frisbie** in Vermont last summer. They report they are all empty-nesters now and adjusting well. ✳ **Chris** and **Gail Robinson Mead** went to Guatemala in April 2004 with a Common Hope vision team, on a work/study/cultural education trip: "While we were in New Hope City—a planned community for families primarily relocated from the ravines (the poorest neighborhoods in Guatemala City), houses built of concrete blocks and corrugated steel, privies down the hill, drinking water from trucks up the slope on the highway)—our hosts told us that the architect was from Vermont. Always looking for a way to exploit our meager Vermont connections, Gail and I went looking. Turns out the architect was Ward Joyce '85, who was living in New Hope City with his wife and two children. Charged with designing and seeing built the new school and community center for the development, Ward is doing tremendous work with a remarkable organization—even using his Middlebury Spanish." (Please turn to the Class of 1985 column, for further news about Ward Joyce.)

—Class Secretaries: *Stephanie Shapiro (stephanie.shapiro@baltsun.com), 604 Gladstone Ave., Baltimore, MD 21210; Gary Holmes (gholmes@rlmnet.com), 29 Patricia Ln., Darien, CT 06820; and Chris Mead (cmead@cuelaw.com), 146 Camino Sobrante, Orinda, CA 94563.*

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Carol Pope Wallace was recently appointed by Connecticut Governor Rell to the State Ethics Commission, a watchdog agency and provider of guidance to public officials. Carol is president and CEO of Middlefield-based Cooper-Atkins, a maker of time, temperature, and humidity instruments. She's also a director of Liberty Bank in Middletown and has chaired the board of the Connecticut Business and Industry Association.

—Class Secretaries: *Bob Lindberg (rcl@linrip.com), 6 Jefferson Dr., East Granby, CT 06026; and Ed Young (ecyoung2001@yahoo.com), 15602 N. 13th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85023.*

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Profuse apologies to classmates who have searched in vain for the class notes they recently submitted for this column! A series of computer glitches and the demise of one elderly computer have resulted in the loss of many interesting reports. Please accept our sincere apologies—we're ready and able to receive your news and look forward to hearing from you soon.

—Class Secretaries: *David Jaffray (djaffray@mchsi.com), 18427 Heathcote Ln., Deephaven, MN 55391; Phyllis Wendell Mackey (phylmackey@hotmail.com), 120 Glade Path, Hampton, NH 03842; and Anne Rowell Noble (annenoblemail@aol.com), 3926 Highwood Ct. NW, Washington, DC 20007.*

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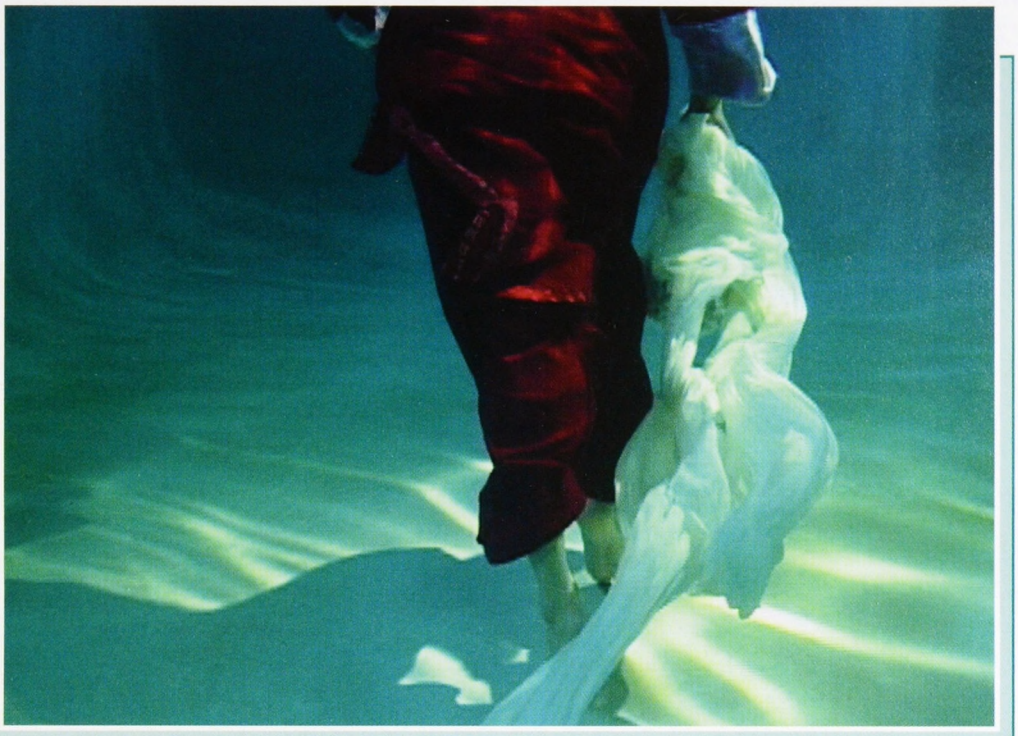
John Putnam and wife Janine are cheese farmers in North Pomfret, Vt. Their specialty cheese, Tarentaise, is described as "a buttery gruyere." Their Thistle Hill Farm recently received a U.S. Department of Agriculture grant to come up with a business development plan to market its Tarentaise, which won awards from the American Cheese Society within the first 18 months of production. ✳ **Karen Reynolds Wagner** recently assumed her new duties as director of academic and career planning at her alma mater, Maine Central Institute. ✳ **Steve Martel** has been appointed project mechanical engineer at Harriman Associates, an architecture and engineering design firm in Auburn, Maine. A Maine Professional Engineer, he's certified in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). ✳ **Roberta Baker** lives in New Hampshire with husband Jim and daughter Isabelle. Her latest children's book is *Lizard Walinsky* (Little, Brown), featuring an independent little girl (similar to the one in *No Ordinary Olive*), who prefers to be called Lizard instead of Elizabeth. This is a great book for children ages three to six. ✳ **Peter Mandel** has come out with two new board books for the very young (up to three): *Planes at the Airport* and *Boats on the River* (Cartwheel Books). The author of nine books for children, Peter has published in *Harper's*, *Reader's Digest*, and *Cosmopolitan*, and is a regular contributor to the travel sections of the *Washington Post*, the *Boston Globe*, and *National Geographic Kids*. He has also been a children's book review columnist for the *Providence Journal* for the last five years. ✳ We're thrilled to be the new class secretaries. Please send us your news, *especially* those of you who were missing from the reunion yearbook. You won't have to compose an entire page this time—just a few sentences would suffice! We'd love to hear what you're up to and so would your classmates. Let's keep the wonderful reunion magic alive by staying in touch.

—Class Secretaries: *Maura Flynn (maura_flynn@msn.com), 36 Poplar St., Douglaston, NY 11363; and Beth Mooney Longcope (longcopes@earthlink.net), 187 Falmouth Rd., Falmouth, ME 04105.*

Sea Glass



AT THE END OF A LONG OUTDOOR HALLWAY at Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art in North Adams, **LAURIE MCLEOD**'s film *Waterhaven No. 1 (Luo Yong's Dream)* plays quietly behind a sheet of running water. A diaphanous white cloth swirls under blue water and gets caught on the wheel of a bright red bicycle. Suddenly a man's legs, barely visible behind the spokes, step gingerly out of the frame.

McLeod, Class of '77, calls her striking installation a liquid portrait, or an "underwater film projected onto moving water" that conveys a particular life experience. *Waterhaven No. 1*, the first in a series, is an autobiographical dance by accomplished Chinese actor Luo Yong. The scenes in the film are metaphors for both Yong's dreams and specific events in his life as explained to McLeod. The installation around the film—running water over a large industrial glass window—was designed to mirror the sensual experience of taking a shower outside. *Waterhaven No. 2* will feature her mechanic and be filmed in the summer.

The eight-minute movie was recorded in 20-second segments in a pool in the Berkshires. In order to stay underwater, Yong had to expel all the air from his lungs. "It is pretty terrifying to be underwater with no air in your lungs and be expected to do something," McLeod admits. "For me, who is shooting, there is no accuracy. The minute we all go underwater, the water takes over."

When McLeod was a junior at Middlebury, she decided that she wanted to start dancing, but she flunked the audition. That night, she happily accepted an invitation to join a group of dancers "who just wanted to move." McLeod credits her unconventional introduction to dance for inspiring creativity throughout her career as a professional dancer and choreographer. "My introduction to dance was completely experimental," she says. "Then I went out and got a lot of technical training. I did it backwards."

But in 2000, McLeod tired of the direction her work had taken, so she bought a good digital camera and started experimenting with dance on camera, again without any formal training. Her first film, *Yes, She Said*, featured a bride who was hiding from her wedding in the deep end of a pool. "The opening image of *Yes, She Said* hit me like a bolt of lightning," McLeod says, "and four months later I was in a pool having absolutely no idea what I was doing."

McLeod quickly realized, however, that her biggest challenge was not operating the camera or even choreographing underwater sequences but getting her finished films seen. "The audience is very small for this work called dance on camera," she says. "So my brain got to thinking of ways that the audience could get larger. I realized that it needed to be seen in much more public spaces." She contacted the director of MassMOCA, who she had met while working as a performance artist, and started designing the installation *Waterhaven No. 1*.

"If I had started in dance as a three-year-old in a tutu," she says, "then I don't know if I would be making the kind of work I make today." The weekend the installation opened, a feature-length article about McLeod and the Waterhaven project appeared in the Sunday *New York Times*. This unexpected recognition corroborated her theory that formal training is no longer a prerequisite for the most acclaimed choreography and creativity. "Life doesn't get any better than that," McLeod says. "The whole thing was better than my wildest dream."

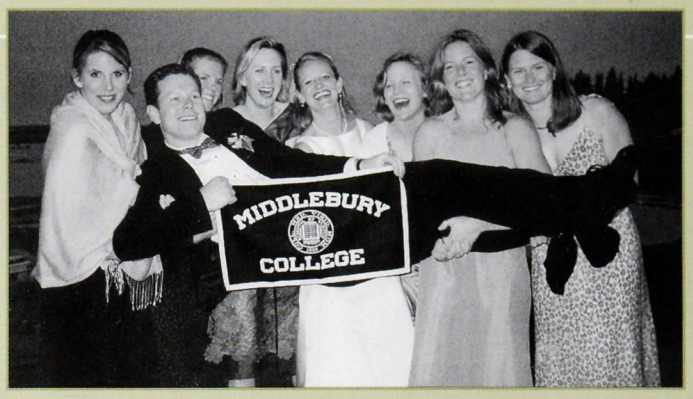
—Lindsey Whitton '05

80 REUNION CLASS

Our 25th Reunion is fast approaching, June 2–5, 2005! YIKES! How did it get to be 25 years so quickly? Don't you still feel like you could dance the night away at the Alibi? You won't need to prove yourself because the Alibi isn't there anymore, but there is a lot of new building on the campus that is worth a trip to see—the brand new library, the Ross and Atwater Commons, and McCardell Bicentennial Hall, to name a few. And then there will be all of US! Mark your calendars, it is going to be great! The reunion committees met in Middlebury in September to begin planning. If you want to help, contact social chair **Anne Cowherd** or reunion gift chair **Sue Follett Panella**. The College is surprised at the amount of interest we already have. You can help us make it the best reunion ever. And you can go to www.middlebury.edu/reunion/1980 to watch reunion plans unfold. * **Rosie Agnew LaBonte** still splits her time between Nantucket and Sherborn, Mass., during the school year. Her five-year-old is in kindergarten and daughter Katie is at Dana Hall. She occasionally runs into Carol and **Zander Grant**, whose daughter, Audrey, also goes to Dana Hall. * **Joe** and **Marina Carasso Coneeny** now own and operate the Windham Hill Inn (www.windhamhill.com) in West Townshend, Vt., where they would love to see you. Rob '78 and **Ellen Boyles Race** visited recently, after

WEDDINGS

The June 19, 2004, wedding of Kimberly Fullerton and Robert Anderson '91 was held in Watch Hill, R.I. Celebrating with them were (standing) Rick Bunt (chemistry department), Elaine Anderson '93, Laurie Hutchins Schaecher '93, Dennis Schaecher '92, Paul Wilcox '91, Anthony Storm '91, Andrew Peach '91, James Anderson '95, Robin Smith '77, and Arthur Cottrell '61.



Following his June 19, 2004, marriage to Pamela Selover '96, Stewart Lawrence was warmly welcomed by '96s Angela Goldman Klingler, Kelsey Fuller Fatland, Sarah Merrill Staples, the bride, Allison Miller Rimland, Corie Pierce, and Susie Van Buren. Other Midd friends gathered on Southport Island, Maine, at the Newagen Seaside Inn, missed the photo: Keven Staples '96, Lance Klingler '95, and Holly Troxell Ruhlin '80.

Loons called during the sunset ceremony when Barbara Kernan (M.A. English '96) and Matthew Bloss (right) were married on August 21 at Stouts' Island Lodge, Mikana, Wis. Reading poetry by Rumi for the couple were fellow Bread-Heads (left) Joe Varone (M.A. English '94) and Sandy Varone (M.A. English '96).

Following the July 10 marriage of Katharine Lord '00 and Daniel Steppe at the Cornwall (Vt.) Congregational Church, friends gathered to celebrate at Hadley Barn, where three generations of alums were represented: Woody Jackson '70, Michael Mulligan '75, Randy Mulligan '68, Janice Rodman '00, Lisa VanSanten '00, Kate Harrington Dickie '00, Nancy Wheeler '00, Alexandra Leonard '00, Elizabeth Lokey '00, Maria Banman '00, Nancy Morgan Serpa '72, Becky Patterson Bruns '72, Sarah Pratt Nesbitt '72, Kathy Mulligan Lord '72, Jan Halstead Franklin '72, Mary Kate Sullivan Cox '72, Carlie Butcher Garonzik '72, Ingrid Punderson Jackson '88, Jill Madden '87, Alison Ingvoldstad '00, Dwight Dunning '67, Rebecca Dunning '97, Judy Enright Dunning '66, Kay Mulligan '49, John Fraser '84, Adam Dreiblatt '99, Ron Allen '99, Rick Brownell '72, Lindy Frew Brownell '72, Churchill Franklin '71, David Gwinn '99, Josh Gutierrez '01, Kate Lockwood Bracken '00, Dave Bracken '00, Ryan Conviser '00, Kelly Box Couch '00, John Couch '99, Helen Gemmill '00, John Dickie '00, Blake Rutherford '00, Edward G. Lord '71, Lee Jones '02, Marisa Budwick '00, George Warner '00, and Christopher Lord '02. Edward W. Mulligan '49 missed the photo.

Megan Mihm '03 and Tom Langsdorf '00 were married August 16, 2003, in Santa Cruz, Calif. Celebrating with them (front) Hitoshi Yamaguchi '02, Aaron Blanchette '04, Steve Liu '03, (middle) PJ Gardner '02, Dorothy Resig '04, the newlyweds, Juliana Grand '03, (back) Ted Glynn '03, Crystalyn Radcliffe '03, John Kuykendall '02, Tom Stafford '03, Amari Parker Harrison '99, Brian Harrison '99, and Steve Bertolino '00. Mark Jacobson '02 and Jenny Harper '05 missed the photo.

Three generations were in Waitsfield, Vt., for the wedding of Jessica Anselment '93 and Christer Wollmar '93 on July 31: Steve Harrison '93, Scott Gillespie '93, Maja Thaler '94, Charo D'Etcheverry '93, the newlyweds, Dick Wollmar '55 (uncle of the groom), Mary Lou King Wollmar '55 (aunt of the groom), and Sydney Copp '01 (grandchild of Dick and Mary Lou).

Napa Valley was the setting for the wedding of Lisa Yamner '01 and Adam Green '98. Middlebury friends gathering on May 29, 2004, included Alanna Shanley '99, Kate Landis Loewengart '99, the newlyweds, Jon Mone '98, Melinda Mettler '01, Emily Oates '01, (second row) Jay Golder '98, Mike Loewengart '98, Casey McCann '01, Mike Saunders '01, Chad Weiner '98, Julie Hand '01, Rick Morgan '00, Jaymie Gross '01, Ellen Rodman '01, and Mercy Horst '01. Frank Ott '98 missed the photo.

A barefoot formal beach ceremony united Amy Olson '99 and Mark Belanger in marriage on April 24, 2004, on Amelia Island in Florida. Celebrating at the White Oak Plantation, a conservation preserve for endangered wildlife in Yulee, were (all '99 unless noted) Jessica Blake, Jenna Sigman, Tania Kozikowski, Jason Hui, Shannon Shaper, the newlyweds, Angenie McCleary, Amari Parker Harrison, Brian Harrison, Jackie Britt, (second row) Shayla Schneider O'Neil, Natasha Kobran, (third row) Colin O'Neil '98, Chrissy Peterson Francik, Susee Witt, and Cam Petke.

The June 26, 2004, marriage of Alexandra Fuller '99 and Iverson Brownell brought several Middlebury friends together in Park City, Utah: Erin Harrington '99, Matt Bijur '97, Jason Hui '99, Shannon Shaper '99, Alan Agle '70 (stepfather of the bride), Kristan Clarke '99, the newlyweds, Buffy Hastings '99 (behind the newlyweds), Andy Wall '99, and Susee Witt '99.

Molly Enman '97 and Jason Peters were married May 7, 2004, in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. On July 3, they celebrated at Sleepy Hollow Inn in Huntington, Vt., with (front) Kate Irvin '01, Michela Adrian '03, Susan Angst '01, Emily Boyle Fisher '97, Olive Isaacs '99, Chante Wiegand '97, (standing) Adri Logalbo '03, Patty Ross (Midd nordic ski coach), Heather Langlois '00, Eric Goldwarg '99, Andrea Busby '99, Clint Bierman '97, Nick Jocelyn '02, Peter Day '01, Eli Enman '00, Kasie Wallace Enman '01, Neil Matthews '96, Jeff Vallone '98, Cara Gabriel '97, Nadya Bech-Conger '97, Sarah Pribram '90, and the newlyweds.

dropping off their daughter Kayla '08 for freshman orientation at Midd. ✷ **Jeff Brodsky** recently became a partner in a leather-goods factory, located in Phrae, Thailand, which produces for European designers such as Hugo Boss and Versace. On April 6, 2004, he married Usa Yobonwat from Thailand. She is adjusting well to life in America. She had never seen snow and managed to make it through the last winter! Jeff and Usa will be dividing their time between home in the Philadelphia area and Thailand, where Jeff has a Bangkok office. Any Thailand-bound travelers are welcome to contact Jeff (jeff@hhgbrands.com) for information. ✷ **Dede Dinse Johnston** sums up the last 25 years from London: Two years after graduating, she married Donald Johnston '76 and they moved to London. Children Kyle (17), Alex (13), and Pamela (10) have all been educated there, although Kyle is now applying to American universities, including Middlebury. Donald works for Deutsche Bank and loves to fish, while Dede is into climbing, skiing, and photography. The family spends every summer on Lake Champlain, not far from Middlebury, as well as increasing amounts of time in the French Alps during the ski season.

—Class Secretaries: *Anne Cowherd (acowherd@cng-inc.com), 1225 Park Ave., #4C, New York, NY 10128; and Susanne Rohardt Strater (scstrater@videotron.ca), 21 Gables Ct., Beaconsfield QC H9W 5H3 Canada.*

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Josh Horowitz reports that he has been made a shareholder in the law firm of Barkiewicz, Kronick & Shanahan of Sacramento, Calif. The firm specializes in water rights issues throughout the state. He finished law school at U.C. Davis in 1996, after 12 years as an agricultural commodities trader. Josh, wife Patti (a second grade teacher), three dogs, and four cats love living in Sacramento in a classic Spanish house six minutes from Josh's work. They are active in charitable and arts organizations, and are members of the rowing club. ✷ **Jeff Dove** is an attorney at Menter, Rudin & Trivelpiece in Syracuse, N.Y. As a specialist in debtor's bankruptcy law, he has helped many companies through the Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection process. After doing this for 20 years, he reports, "I still really like it." In his free time, he likes to golf, scuba dive, and go boating. Jeff and wife Cathy live in Skaneateles with daughter Jamie (16).

—Class Secretaries: *Sue Dutcher Wagley (suewagley@earthlink.net), 4060 Hanover Ave., Dallas, TX 75225; and Anne Borchardt Exler (aexler@alumni.middlebury.edu), 35 Jackson Hill Rd., Underhill, VT 05489.*

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Keith O'Hara shares the news that daughter Rachel is a freshman at Bates. Traveling to Maine to see her this fall, Keith and wife Dena also planned a visit with **Greg Tolman** in Portland. Dena and Keith recently "ran and finished our first marathon in Chicago!" Their goal was "to be nearly recovered (show no limp)" when they visited their daughter and Greg the following weekend! ✷ Congratulations to **Robin Hirsch Friedman**, who received her standard certification in French, after going to school last year and teaching for two years. Now she has a brand-new job, teaching eighth-grade French at Montgomery (N.J.) Middle School: "I teach some of the best kids in the school. It's great fun—I will be able to do a lot more with them than I could in my previous position." Never known to be an early bird, Robin has even adjusted to a morning schedule starting at 7:20 AM. ✷ **Peter** and Grace Brown '80 **Smith** live in Pittsburgh, Pa., with daughter Lauren (14) and son Andrew (10). Since Peter is the president of Starkist Seafood, a division of Del Monte Foods, daughter Lauren jokingly refers to him as "the King of Tuna!" ✷ **Peter Sallerson** writes that he married Catherine Six in November 2003. In NYC, Peter works for Bear Stearns and Catherine is in the fashion industry. They met on the tennis courts and enjoy skiing, biking, and other outdoor activities. ✷ Thanks to **Nancy Rielle**, who forwarded an article (*New York Times* Metro Section, May 11, 2004) about **Kenneth Adams**, the president of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. The article describes Kenneth's career, dedicated to NYC programs, including New York Cares and the City Volunteer Corps, as well as his great energy and enthusiasm for Brooklyn. A Brooklyn native, it's no surprise that he lives in the borough with his wife, Diana, and two children. Great job, Kenneth! He received an Alumni Achievement Award from Middlebury at Homecoming 1992. ✷ In August, **Alison McGhee** released a new book, *Mrs. Watson Wants Your Teeth*. Her first children's book, *Countdown to Kindergarten*, came out in August 2002. She has published dozens of short stories, poems, essays, and book reviews, not to mention her award-winning novels (*Rainlight*, *Shadow Baby*, and *Was It Beautiful?*). Alison also teaches an advanced writing course at Metropolitan State Univ. You can read about Alison on her Web site, AlisonMcGhee.com.

—Class Secretaries: *Wendy Behringer Nelson (gomomgo@att.net), 2071 St. Andrews Dr., Berwyn, PA 19312; and Caleb Rick (crick@northcommon.com), P.O. Box 189, Chelsea, VT 05038.*

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Jen Baker Warren is a busy Waldorf kindergarten teacher in southern Phoenix, Ariz., where she reports that they "have a mini-farm with 30 animals—sometimes even ride my horse to school! My son, Florian, is a senior at Verde Valley School and will be applying to Midd, though he prefers Dartmouth. (Ugh!) Emma (10) paints, sings, plays instruments (recorder, piano, and violin), swims, and rides as often as possible. Lucy (5) is in my class this year. In my free time, I continue to run the nonprofit study abroad program I founded with some friends. Our Web site is www.passageproject.org. Otherwise, life is awesome. Come visit!" ✷ **Stephen Mullin** was recently named president of the Washington Roundtable, a public policy organization comprised of CEOs from Washington state's 40 major employers. Since 1983, the roundtable has worked to create positive change on critical policy issues that foster economic growth and generate jobs in the area. ✷ I (**Ruth Kennedy**) recently spent an evening with **Kerry Callahan** and his wife Maura and their two kids. It was great to catch up. In addition to practicing law in Hartford, Conn., Kerry writes a monthly column for the *Hartford Courant* called "Microbrew Review." The topic is self-explanatory, and since he's been writing it for seven years, my guess is that he's quite an expert by now! ✷ I also had a great opportunity recently to catch up with **John Nelson**. When I asked him if I could mention him in the notes, he wrote: "By all means, let people know that around Boston there are Midd alums who are united by common experience and the passionate desire for a change in political leadership." John is the pastor at the Dover Church, in Dover, Mass., where he continues in his efforts "to invite overly busy, professional, suburban, good-hearted people to get connected with the great needs of our society—fighting hunger and homelessness, promoting joyful relationships across faith lines, and keeping the culture of consumerism from making us into its image!" I couldn't agree more.

—Class Secretaries: *Ruth Kennedy (kennedyr2@aetna.com), 195 Church St., Newton, MA 02458; and Siobhan Leahy Ulrich (sulrich@westminster-school.org), Westminster School, 995 Hopmeadow St., Simsbury, CT 06070.*

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Thank you to our predecessors, **Kristin Gould Case** and **David Wagstaff**! We hope to keep up the good work and that everyone will feel free to e-mail us with their news. It was great to see so many old friends at reunion. The weather was beautiful and made for a perfect time to relax and catch up. A big thank you to **Jim** and **Liz Hackett Robinson** for the Sunday brunch at their home reunion weekend. And best wishes to them during their transition to life in London. ✷ **Jason Bacon** reports that he and his London clan enjoyed several weeks last summer on the eastern shores of Lake Champlain, where they dined in style with **Peter Tichansky**, **Karen Kaminsky**, **Glenn** and **Cheryl Whitney Lower**, and **Tom Knox**. The Tichansky-Kaminsky team (seen diving into watering holes throughout central Vermont) report that they are "deeply into NYC high school and middle school searches for daughters Leah (13) and Sarah (10)—and brought a puppy back to NYC from Burlington." ✷ Since reunion, the **Boscow** clan has relocated to Minnesota. We're glad to be back and are happy to report that rarely seen '84 classmates **Carter Freeman** (who lives in Edina, Minn., with wife Jill and kids Wes and Jessica) and **Dick Crawford** (who lives in Deep Haven, Minn., with wife Cindy and kids Maddie and Ben) are alive and well! Anders '85 and **Sally Lindwall Knutzen** (of St. Paul) were not able to make reunion, but are very active in the Midd alumni activities here in the Twin Cities. ✷ From **Sally Burke McNamara** we hear that congratulations are in order for **Robin Harris**, who gave birth to Brennan James Nicholas Harris on July 22, 2004. Annie McNamara (Sally's daughter) reports that Mme. **Jen McGonagle** is *loved* by her French students at Wellesley High School! ✷ Elizabeth and **Dennis Boyle** joyfully welcomed Charles Samuel Boyle (Charlie) to the clan on April 5, 2004. His sisters are Maggie (2) and Meredith (13). ✷ **Mark Ray** and a friend rode their bicycles 100 miles in early June for the fourth annual Jim Ray Memorial Century Heart Ride, in memory of Mark's father, an avid cyclist who died of heart disease. Riding from Mark's home in Shelburne to Middlebury and back, the two raised more than $8,000 for the American Heart Association, with many donations coming from Middlebury friends. ✷ **Paul Perrotta** extended his streak of consecutive 100-plus stroke rounds on Ralph Myrhe to 85 by playing with his long suffering father-in-law, Tim Wallace '57, in this year's Gordie Perine '49 Alumni Tournament. The streak started on October 1, 1981, when Paul was cursed by Pardon Tillinghast for skipping his history seminar to play golf. Given the power of the curse and the length of the streak, Paul has abandoned the traditional golfer's goal of shooting his age and now appears to be maniacally focused upon shooting his weight. ✷ **Marty Lanigan** reports no new news, but remains busy with his kids and his work at Mezz Cap. ✷ **Buck Dominick** attended the Great American Beer Festival in Denver, and consumed an ale or two with Jamie Magee '83, an editor of an actual beer

newspaper. Buck has never looked back after opening his own law practice two years ago: "It leaves lots of flexibility for attending children's sporting events (lacrosse), back-to-school nights, parent/teacher conferences and school performances." Buck also reports that both of his daughters are now in college. ✳ **Todd Hermanson** writes from Cincinnati to say that this summer's reunion was enjoyable and that his classmates and their spouses are still a very fine-looking group. ✳ Dr. **Bill Hathaway** reports that he and his tribe are "happy, healthy, and looking for malpractice reform. We survived the hurricanes despite huge amounts of flooding and great economic damage to the area." Bill extends an invitation to his classmates to visit him in Asheville, N.C. Bill notes that his pal, **Paul Drain**, recently moved to Charlotte, N.C., with his wife and three boys. ✳ **Michael Rich** is working for Partners in Health, an organization chronicled by Tracy Kidder in his recent book, *Mountains Beyond Mountains*. PIH provides health care to residents of Haiti, Peru, and Siberia. ✳ **Kenneth Rapuano** was recently named deputy assistant to the president for Homeland Security. He had been serving as deputy under secretary of energy for counterterrorism, where he had been overseeing nuclear counterterrorism activities and coordinating policy for the National Nuclear Security Administration. Ken served on active duty as an infantry officer in the Marine Corps and currently serves as an intelligence officer in the Marine Corps Reserve. In 2003, he deployed to Iraq for six months in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.
—Class Secretaries: *Andrew Zehner (andrew.zehner@pfizer.com), 93 Livingston St., New Haven, CT 06511; and Kimberly Schlegel Boscow (ksboscow@comcast.net), 3187 Alden Pond Ln., Eagan, MN 55121.*

85 REUNION CLASS

For the last year and a half, **Ward Joyce** has been in Guatemala working as an architect and planner, designing a school, houses, roads, parks, gardens, erosion prevention projects, rainwater catchment systems, solar hot water panels, and more. Ward writes about the Nueva Esperanza (New Hope) development project: "Though the project is five years old, until I arrived, the foundation had never hired an architect, engineer, or planner to help execute their vision. And so when a bilingual architect/builder spontaneously inquired about volunteering, the foundation immediately flew me down to see the project. They had been searching for someone to run their town building effort, and were also looking for an architect to begin designing the center of the community: a new 25-classroom school. The project involves the building of a community for approximately 100 poor families outside of Guatemala City, including homes, two clinics, a free regional school for 600 kids, and all the infrastructure needed to support that. As I couldn't have asked for a more interesting opportunity, it was an easy sell. Four months later, on leave from my architecture job in Burlington (Vt.), two cars sold, and house packed up and rented out, we flew to Guatemala with a five-month-old baby and a four-year-old, to begin what developed into a 20-month stay." They were heading home to Vermont in December, "having had an amazing family experience." ✳ **Shelagh Connor Shapiro** received her MFA in writing in January 2003. Two of her stories have appeared in the journals *Hunger Mountain* and *Short Story*. A third is forthcoming in *North Dakota Quarterly*. Presently an adjunct prof. teaching English at Champlain College in Burlington, Vt., Shelagh is working on a novel. In January 2005, she and her family (husband Jerry and sons Connor and Aaron) will move to Australia for five months. Although very excited to be in Sydney (where Jerry's brother and his family live), Shelagh will be disappointed to miss reunion. ✳ **Karen Kraus Skalla** recently joined the oncology clinic at the Springfield (Vt.) Hospital. Her areas of interest are focused on symptom management and palliative care: "I hope to improve the quality of life for patients with cancer," she reports. She's affiliated with DHMC as a hematology/oncology nurse practitioner in the Norris Cotton Cancer Center's outreach program. ✳ **Andy** and **Kim Davis Gluck** are looking forward to seeing everyone at reunion: "We will be bringing Samantha (12) and Joshua (8)!" ✳ Our 20th Reunion is coming soon and we hope you're making plans to attend what promises to be a great June weekend in the Green Mountains. Waiting for you are new buildings, old friends, new memories, old haunts, and even a new college president. Your classmates are hard at work putting together a fun-filled time and we hope you'll bring the whole family. After all, we only get to do this once every five years. See you there!
—Class Secretary: *Dale Sailer (dsailer@disasterkleenup.com), 2237 Linneman St., Glenview, IL 60025.*

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Hey, fellow '86ers. It's a new year, so it's time to make a resolution: In 2005, we will e-mail **Macon Morehouse** and **Lisa Sullivan** and let them know all the cool things going on at home, at work, and when we get together with our classmates. Thanks in advance! ✳ **Tom Joyce** is still working at EMC in Massachusetts, running the network business. He and Tracy have two kids (6 and 7). ✳ **Michael Smith** and wife Nora Demleitner proudly announce the arrival of daughter Venetia on April 2, 2004. She joins brother Cordell (3). ✳ The stork continues to make deliveries in Summit, N.J., to Pam and **Tom Robertson**. Theodore "Teddy" James was born in July of 2004. Teddy is welcomed by siblings Meredith (7), William (6), and Mimi (2). ✳ The state of Texas welcomed Lorna Elizabeth Peters on August 6. "Fortunate for her, she looks like her mom," reports Lorna's dad, **Chris Peters**. Congratulations to Chris and wife Kathryn. ✳ Congratulations to **Evan Gsell**! On October 15, he married entertainment lawyer Jodi Peikoff at City Hall in NYC. Evan is VP of legal and business affairs at Atari. ✳ I (Macon) am still at *People* magazine. After a busy summer covering politics—including a trip to the Democratic Convention in Boston, where I narrowly missed catching up with **Heather Breed O'Neil**—I am now reporting on medical stories for the magazine. In my free time, I'm a soccer and baseball mom to daughter Claire (8). Last spring, I got to catch up with **Laura Mugnani Briggs** and her three girls, who were still settling in after their latest move (this time to Pittsburgh) for the Coast Guard job of hubby **Wyman Briggs**. Laura and Wyman spent their fall chasing after girls chasing after soccer balls. Their daughters play on four different soccer teams, two of which Wyman coaches. Laura reports that she has returned to school to become an elementary school teacher. It's both "exciting and overwhelming," she writes. "I'm taking three classes this semester as prerequisites for the full-time, one-year program that I'll start at the Univ. of Pittsburgh next fall. I love being a student again!" Wyman, meantime, had his hands full with the flooding caused by Hurricane Ivan. "His group had to rescue more than 50 people from the tops of cars, trees, and roofs. Entire marinas of recreational boats were floating down the Allegheny River, and dozens ended up stranded in the fountain in the middle of Point Park," Laura writes. ✳ **Domenic Ciarallo** thankfully got far sunnier skies last summer for his company's 8th annual Charity Golf Classic, a chance to raise money for a good cause and catch up with Midd friends. "With amazing weather, the 144 golfers had a great day and $12,400 was raised for the local Montreal children's charities," Domenic writes. "The event was attended by **Frank Muggia** '86 and Tim Simpson '84. Frank has played for many consecutive years and Tim was back for a second time." It was also a chance for all their kids to get together. Between the three, they have eight children. The money raised went to the Missing Children's Network Canada and Club des Petits Dejeuners du Quebec. ✳ **Sam Silver**, an attorney specializing in product liability litigation, got a big promotion at work. He's now chair of Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP's litigation services department. Sam has worked for the national law firm since graduating from the Univ. of Mich. Law School in 1989. Congratulations, Sam! ✳ In New Jersey, **Tom Robertson** has joined Sedgwick, Detert, Moran & Arnold LLP as a lateral partner. He had been a partner with Newark's McCarter & English. Tom concentrates in general litigation and trial practice. ✳ **Don** and Carol Scarbeau '87 **Guidi** and their kids, Michael (8) and Tanner (4), welcome friends to stop when they make trips for skiing in upstate New York!
—Class Secretaries: *Macon Morehouse (macon_morehouse@peoplemag.com), 5805 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20814; and Lisa Cheney Sullivan (sullivanlisa@mindspring.com), 42 Massasoit Ave., Sudbury, MA 01776.*

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Alex and Whitney Combs **Van Praagh** welcomed bouncing baby Alexander William Richard Van Praagh on May 9, 2004. Alex and Whitney met years ago in San Francisco, where they helped found CELLspace, an artists collective and gallery in the Mission District. They moved back East and were married in the MIT chapel. The Van Praaghs live in Cambridge, Mass., where Alex practices architecture with a focus on affordable housing. ✳ Over the summer **Jason Robart** and family spent a couple of weeks in the UK and Holland, including cycling around Holland for a week with the kids, cousins, and in-laws. "The ages of the family members ranged from 9 to 70," Jason writes, "but we still managed to put in about 30 miles a day. It was a great trip and we can't wait to do another one next year." Jason works in Boston for Mercer Human Resource Consulting. ✳ **Michael Davis** was recently promoted to president and CEO of UNICOM, based in Providence. ✳ **Elisabeth Strekalovsky** writes that she is "enjoying life with a preschooler and my job as a school psychologist. It's funny to be on the other side of the parent/teacher conference table now, and I think it gives me even more appreciation for what all these parents want for their kids!" ✳ **Betsy Bass Shands** began work this fall as the new outreach coordinator for the White River Partnership. As a board member for the Partnership, Betsy developed the citizen-based water quality monitoring project. She has lived in the White River Watershed for several years, in the towns of Pittsfield and Stockbridge. She and husband Jim have two daughters. ✳ **Tommy Doyle** informs us that he is "still just as good looking and charming as you remember him!" He adds that Shevaun Mackie

Doyle '88 is "a saint." ✳ A wave of 40th birthdays is hitting our classmates. **Geoff Houghton**'s was celebrated in September with a gala pig roast at his rustic geodesic dome house in Whitefield, Maine. The Houghton place was also the scene of a summer lobster boil attended by **Tom Funk, Dan Robb, Alex Van Praagh**, and **Jim Lilly**. Geoff and wife Malley own the Liberal Cup Public House & Brewery in Hallowell, Maine, of which BeerAdvocate.com says, "Definitely a worthy place to grab a pint or three, if you find yourself in or around the state capitol area. Recommended!"
—Class Secretaries: *Elizabeth Ryan O'Brien (obrien@bigwhoop.com), 93 High Ridge Rd., Pound Ridge, NY 10576; and Tom Funk (tfunk@VTBear.com), 30 Many Waters Ln., Bristol, VT 05443.*

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Gordon Smith is the new principal for Ludlow (Vt.) High School. He was formerly assistant principal at East Longmeadow High School. ✳ On August 29, Stephanie Ressel de Iriarte and **Chris Summersgill** were married in East Orleans, Mass., as the home of Chris's parents. The newlyweds live in Campbell, Calif., where Chris is the general manager of Bolt Industries. Stephanie is pursuing a degree in architecture from the Calif. College of Arts in San Francisco. ✳ **Arianne Faber Kolb**'s book on the 17th-century painter *Jan Brueghel the Elder* is being published in January 2005 (Getty Publications). ✳ **Steve Peterson** has recently joined **Michael Obel-Omia** and **Jed Smith** on the board of trustees at Midd, making the Class of 1988 the most represented class on the board. Perhaps they could think about getting the Rosebud back as a top priority!
—Class Secretaries: *John Brainerd (jbinsf@hotmail.com), 2875 Glascock St., #208, Oakland, CA 94601; and Claire Gwatkin Jones (gwatko@yahoo.com), 334 N. Oakland St., Arlington, VA 22203.*

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With this column, we welcome secretaries **Keith Pennell** and **Jeff Somers**, who would like to begin by expressing the gratitude of the class to **Kristen Canfield McBurney** and **Tim O'Shea** for all their years of hard work on our behalf. Please continue to send your news to the addresses at the conclusion of this column. ✳ This fall, **Maggie Adams** traveled to Kazakstan for a year. She'll then be in Xinjiang, China, for six months with her husband and daughter Sofie (3). Maggie reports: "I received funding from Fulbright and SSRC to study festivals and media events related to nation-building and concepts of Kazak nationhood, both in Kazakstan and among Xinjiang Kazaks. Sofie had a great time in Kazakstani day care last summer, when I brought her along for my language training in Almaty, and she's looking forward to *detskii sad* (daycare/kindergarten) again this year. We're trying to raise her bilingual, so this trip should really boost her Russian." Maggie is a Ph.D. candidate in ethnomusicology at the Univ. of Ill. at Urbana-Champaign. ✳ **Martha Meyer Agresta** sums up the last 15 years: "I've left a career in technology to pursue a doctorate in clinical psychology. No kids yet, but lots of plants." ✳ With a J.D. from Boston Univ. School of Law (1995), **Lisa Pauquette** has been named special counsel at international law firm Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP. ✳ **Julia Acer** sends a quick update: "I live in Phoenix, where I teach holistic healing and have a private practice. It's a pretty bizarre career change, after an MBA from Kellogg and six years of strategy consulting, but that's what it is!" ✳ **Kristen Lindquist** has "left the hectic world of retail management for the nonprofit sector." She is the membership and administrative coordinator for Coastal Mountains Land Trust, which conserves land in midcoast Maine. "Feel like I finally found my dream job." ✳ **Marci Griffith Loeber**, who received the Robert Swain Award in 2000 for her contributions in the real estate industry, is the executive director of Cushman & Wakefield of Massachusetts, Inc. Marci and husband Franz welcomed son Paul last May. ✳ **Sarah Dumke** missed the reunion because her mother was getting married! She writes: "My dad passed away a few years ago, and we are psyched she found a great guy—even though he *did* go to Dartmouth. The short of it is that I was in NYC for 11 years and am now out in San Francisco. I was first doing the acting thing and had a small theater company in TriBeCa, and then I totally changed my life around, went to grad school at Columbia, and became a family nurse practitioner. I escaped NYC just after school and moved out to San Francisco in 2000 and am loving it. I'm working at UCSF's Women's Health Center in primary care medicine, but had been at the UCSF Cancer Center and before that at a Latino community health care center (*si hablo espanol*). I met a great guy at an Ultimate Frisbee tournament party (he plays—I just went to the party) in 2001. He turned my life around again, and we got married in October 2003 in NYC at the Chelsea Art Museum. It was a fabulous day and he's a fabulous guy—Chad Walters, born and raised in Hong Kong (which keeps us traveling), a software engineer from Stanford, now working at Yahoo! with the search team. We are traveling when possible and otherwise enjoying this beautiful town. Wishing all the Midd folks my best and hoping for peace!"
—Class Secretaries: *Keith Pennell (kpennell@dfwcapital.com), 1 Powder Hill, Saddle River, NJ 07458; and Jeff Somers (jsomers@amazon.com), 4220 51st Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98118.*

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REUNION CLASS

This past summer **Tom Louderback** spent five days sailing in Maine with **Scott Jensen, Scotty McLucas, Sam Webb**, and **John Lewis**. Tom is a lawyer, currently living in Rhode Island. ✳ Somehow, the former Zeta Psi crew—who lived together at Middlebury and were later under the same roof in Jamaica Plain, Mass.—have found a way to live on their own. **Bill Eaton** and his wife bought a house in Hull, Mass.; **Andy Rosenshine** and his wife bought a house in the far suburbs of Boston; **Jon Mowry** and his wife moved back to Vermont, near Manchester; **John Hoult** is building and refurbishing wooden boats near Mystic, Conn.; and **Geoff Coffey** writes a monthly column for the *San Francisco Chronicle* on native plant communities of the Bay Area. Geoff also contributes to other magazines like *Planet* (billed as "global culture and lifestyle") and *Bay Nature* (a much-admired local environmental quarterly), as well as doing some landscape consulting. His Internet site (www.senorcafe.com) highlights good writing from a number of contributors. ✳ **Pamela Adelman** also lives and works in the Bay Area, at Diablo Publishing. ✳ **Beth Walton** and **Alex Chang** were married in August. They met the first day of freshman orientation and lived yards apart on Battell South, but it took moving across the country to San Francisco and a little help from their 10th Reunion to finally connect. ✳ **Greg Frezados** reports that his law practice (estate planning, nonprofits) is growing, and he's become more involved with the Chicago Community Trust's Young Leaders Fund, as chair of the Childhood Development and Education Group, making grants to smaller community organizations. ✳ **Ian Kelley** has hung his own shingle, calling his firm Lee & Kelley (www.leekelley.com). Their principal practice is corporate and tax law, and some real estate. Ian and his wife have a red-headed son, named Nicholas (2), who is growing fast and talking a lot. Ian claims to wonder where he gets that from. ✳ **Steve Fitzpatrick** is doing well, happily ensconced at the Hackley School in Tarrytown, N.Y., teaching history, along with wife Betty, the music teacher, and their two children. ✳ **Gretchen Eisele Eaton** and her family recently bought a house in Larchmont, N.Y., where she is slowly adjusting to the non-City life. She and her husband have two children, ages two and four. Gretchen has her own company, Leapfrog Video Productions, plus she freelances making documentaries for cable channels. ✳ **Deborah Gow Baginski** lives near Portland, Maine, with her husband and daughters Sarah and Laura. Living along the coast makes them miss the mountains, so they return to Vermont every year to vacation and get a dose of the beautiful Green Mountains. Deb writes: "After over 10 years of not skating, I dusted off my old blades and joined a local women's hockey league. It's a blast. My husband and kids come do the wave in the empty stands at game time—just like old times." **Monica Chrambach Kucich** and **Erin McNulty Stulb** visited Deb's family over the summer with their respective families. ✳ **Sarah Menzel** (the non-twin) is a National Board Certified Special Education teacher in Columbia, S.C. She recently received her master's from the Univ. of S.C. ✳ **Becca Hoyt Crowder** is working in the development office at UNC-Chapel Hill. ✳ **Suzy Chambers Sterner** recently became VP of the Wade Group, a public relations firm in D.C. A few months ago, Suzy ran into **Kyle Westgard** at a charity event in NYC. Kyle is a project manager for Encore International and continues his work with Asia. Suzy and Tom Louderback will be serving as the cochairs for our 15th Reunion gift committee, so when they (or one of their elves) call or e-mail you, don't hang up or press delete. Think back to the halcyon days of our youth spent at Middlebury and try to give something back. Clear your calendars now—we will be so psyched to see you at Reunion, June 3–5, 2005!
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Clymer Bardsley graduated from Cardozo School of Law in June, took the bar in July, and began work for the NYC Law Department in September. He writes that he'll be prosecuting juvenile delinquency cases in family court. ✳ **Chris Hallenbeck** reports he is "living in my hometown of Palo Alto, Calif., with wife Lisa and daughters Lily (2.5) and Charlotte (2 mos.). I'm still working in software, but recently made the switch from sales engineering to product management—and have never looked back." ✳ **Heather Cheney** and Philip Rosier, who were married on June 28, 2003, have bought an old house in Cambridge, Mass. Heather is an estate and financial planning attorney at U.S. Trust Company in Boston; her husband works in business development at Innocentive, a subsidiary of Eli Lilly. ✳ Belated congratulations to Lisa Williamson and **Andrew Smith**, who were married on October 26, 2002, in Edgartown, Martha's

Vineyard. Andy is an orthopaedic surgeon at Rhode Island Hospital, Providence, R.I., while Lisa is a nurse anesthetist with Providence Anesthesiologists Inc.
—Class Secretaries: *Bill Driscoll (william.driscoll@rhi.com), 743 Wildwood Rd., Atlanta, GA 30324; and Kate J. Kelley (katekjk@comcast.net), 805 E. 7th Ave., #7, Denver, CO 80218.*

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As mentioned in our fall column, Chief of Operational Law **Hank McKnelly** was promoted to the rank of major at a ceremony in Iraq in September. He has been serving with the 1st Cavalry Division in Iraq since his arrival in June. Despite the distance and the exacting rigors of his long days at Camp Victory, he has been closely following Redskins football, as a long-standing fan and avid advocate of Joe Gibbs. ✳ **Alexandra Kotur** is a senior features editor at *Vogue,* where she develops feature stories and works closely with photographers on portraits and major portfolios. It's a job that keeps her traveling to many interesting locales. She recently published a book, *Carolina Herrera: Portrait of a Fashion Icon* (Assouline 2004). Alexandra keeps up with **Melissa Barrett Rhodes**, who's involved in a number of interior design projects and contributes regularly to several interior design magazines. She's also hosting *Ultra Space*, a new cable television show about high-end residential interior design and architecture that airs on Voom's ULTRA HD. Melissa lives in NYC with her husband and son. ✳ **Glenn Bryant** writes: "I will be living in Finland starting September 1, pursuing an LL.M. in commercial law at the Univ. of Helsinki. Midd friends can reach me at glennpbryant@yahoo.com." ✳ **Allan Reeder** is teaching literature and fiction writing at the Walnut Hill School, an arts high school in Natick, Mass. He has one summer left to complete his M.A. at Bread Loaf School of English. ✳ **John Doty** has been promoted to director of the Washington office of Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.). ✳ After several fantastic years of living in Ripton, Vt., **Elizabeth Bell** and husband Tim McDermott have moved back to Truckee, Calif., where they first met. They have two daughters, Addy (3) and Maia (1). ✳ Peter and **Susan Liu Crawford** announce the arrival of second daughter Annika Liu Clarke Crawford on April 23, 2004. She joins sister Kathia (4 in November). The Crawfords have relocated to the Pennsylvania countryside, after enduring nearly four years of congestion in North Jersey. ✳ Jon and **Carolyn Eppes Gilbert** welcomed daughter Lilly (Lillian Spencer Gilbert) on May 11, then moved to Shaker Heights, Ohio, in June to be closer to family. Jon works at National City Bank in Cleveland; Carolyn returned to multimedia sales and marketing at Borders after her maternity leave. ✳ Oscar Donnan David Walsh arrived on September 21, in Denver, Colo., much to the delight of his parents, Kimberly and **Pete Walsh**. ✳ Rich and **Chris Bushey Leggett** welcomed Henry George Leggett on September 27 in NYC. Chris and Rich recently returned to NYC, after living in London for several years. ✳ A large Middlebury crew gathered to celebrate the nuptials of Shelley Kamerer and **Kingman Gordon** on September 11, in Easthampton, N.Y. Kingman and Shelley live in the Marina district in San Francisco with their large Newfoundland, Clyde. ✳ **Drew Meyers** made a big move from Boston to San Francisco, where he'll be working in the SF office of Digitas. His wife, Sharon, took a position with the Francis J. Curry National Tuberculosis Center. ✳ A group of D.U.'s had its second annual mini-reunion at Stratton Mountain, where they played three days of golf, while drinking and making fun of each other. According to one participant, "all are well, a bit older, and somewhat heavier." The group included **Dean Flanagan**, **Dave Fritzsche**, **Garrett Johnston**, Rick Gronda '93, **Kent Hughes**, **Matt Thompson**, **Michael Rex**, **Mike Scanlon**, **Matt Shaw**, **Pete Steinle**, **Rick O'Neil**, **Terry Wise**, **Warren Dowd**, **Pat Dyson**, **David Boyle**, Andrew J. Hyland '93, and **Rick Gable**. ✳ After experiencing NYC for a few years, **Dave Boyle** has been living in Boston for 18 months. He's single, works in commercial real estate, and spends a good deal of time working with inner-city kids at the Nativity Prep School of Jamaica Plain, leading hikes up Mt. Washington every summer, and tutoring. ✳ **Michael J. Summersgill**, living in Weston with wife Marissa and dog Rafiki, recently made partner, while still finding time to become handy with the chain saw. ✳ **Tom Armbrecht** has two books forthcoming—a translation of and critical introduction to *Wicked Angels* (a 1950s French novel, by Eric Jourdan, that was banned in France for 20 years) and a monograph entitled "At the Periphery of the Center" (on the works of 20th-century French authors Julien Green and Marguerite Yourcenar). Tom is approaching tenure at the Univ. of Wis., Madison, where he's in his second year as the department's "post-1950s prose fiction specialist." Throughout his travels, he has been in touch with **Abby Craig** in Berkeley, Calif., and **Victoria Northrop de Beltran** '90 in Budapest, Hungary. Tom and partner Pat were visiting **David Bergeron** and his wife, **Ritu Verma**, and their new daughter, Keya, in India in November/ December. ✳ In September, **Stefanie Hirsh** left NYC for the greener pastures of Chapel Hill, N.C., where she's a producer at WUNC, the NPR station. Stefanie has reconnected with several Midd alums, including **Kate Unterberg Kessler**, who is studying massage therapy. If you're in North Carolina, please contact Stefanie at stefaniehirsh@yahoo.com, because she's trying to establish the area's first alumni chapter.
—Class Secretaries: *Fred Lawrence (flawrence@ipaa.org), 3831 Rodman St. NW, D-28, Washington, DC 20016; and Sara Weale (sweale@mindspring.com), 200 W. 86th St., #5D, New York, NY 10024.*

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Christian Parker recently bought a place in Park Slope, Brooklyn. He continues to work and direct at the Atlantic Theater Company, while teaching in the graduate theater program at Columbia. He recently coproduced and dramaturged a production of Ionesco's *The Bald Soprano* and *The Lesson for the Atlantic*, which was directed by **Carl Forsman**, with lights designed by **Josh Bradford**. He also caught **Ana Reeder**'s brilliant performance in *Hedda Gabler* at New York Theatre Workshop, with Melissa Menta '91. ✳ **Susie Caldwell Rinehart** recently published a children's book, *Eliza and the Dragonfly*. ✳ **Erin Hart** (harte@slwrmc.org) reports that she is "still living in Ketchum, Idaho (with lots of other Midd grads!), with husband Jeffrey and stepdaughter Tori (12). I have an MSW and run a community health center for our local hospital. We love visitors—our door is always open!" ✳ **Ofelia Barrios** attended the 15th World AIDS Conference in Bangkok, Thailand, in July. Before returning home to the Bronx, she also traveled to Japan. ✳ **Kerry Byron** married Gautam Inaganti in Laguna Beach, Calif., on March 27, 2004. Many Middlebury friends were in attendance to help celebrate. The newlyweds live in Frederick, Md. ✳ The June 5 marriage of **Jennifer Saunders** and Elwin Emery took place at Kingsland Bay State Park on Lake Champlain. Jennifer is employed by Vermont Student Assistance Corp. and her husband works for the U.S. Postal Service. They live in Essex, Vt. ✳ **Rita Glavin** and Matthew Amatruda were married on June 19 in Waterford, N.Y. Rita is an assistant U.S. attorney in Manhattan; her husband is an assistant Manhattan district attorney. ✳ The Inn at the Round Barn in Waitsfield was the scene of the Vermont wedding of **Jessica Anselment** and Christer Wollmar. Now living in Virginia, she's teaching history in Chantilly, while he's a management consultant in Vienna. ✳ Following their marriage in NYC on September 10, Donna Marie Shaban and **Kuni Chen** honeymooned in Moorea, Tahiti. Kuni is an equity analyst, and Donna runs her family business. ✳ **Erin Hill** and Stephen Berard were married on September 19 in Weekapaug, R.I. They're living in Narragansett, R.I. ✳ **Carolyn Ramos** and husband Chad Cooper '95 welcomed first child Santiago Ramos Cooper on May 28. As Carolyn puts it, "he's the greatest thing we ever did." Carolyn is a senior litigation associate with the law firm of Butt Thornton & Baehr in Albuquerque, N.M. She's always eager to hear from folks at scramos@btblaw.com. ✳ **Anne Harris** and husband Charles Watchow welcomed first child Noah Wyatt, on October 9. Anne writes: "Parenting is unbelievable. This tiny little guy changes life so much and it's awesome. I continue to teach English and college counsel in the Bay Area, and Charles is hanging in there with Silicon Valley's volatile biotech industry, working as a scientist."
—Class Secretaries: *Maria Diaz (maria.diaz@cnn.com), 244 8th Ave., Paterson, NJ 07514; and Dan Suratt (daniel.suratt@nbc.com), 60 Pineapple St., #71, Brooklyn, NY 11201.*

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On August 19, **Gene Swift** and wife Jamie Goldsborough welcomed first child Alexander William Swift. It's been a great year for Gene and Jamie: Gene was promoted to VP, communications director, at commercial lender Wells Fargo Foothill, and—just weeks before Alexander's arrival—Gene and Jamie moved into their first home in Valencia, Calif., just north of Los Angeles. ✳ **Lisa Morgan-Klepeis** and husband Matthew are pleased to announce the arrival of daughter Emma Morgan Klepeis on January 1, 2003. They live in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. ✳ **Stephen** and Andress Beck '98 **Pettibone** welcomed their first child, daughter Hannah Andress, on August 25. ✳ After a stint as a high school math teacher in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, **Doug Clarner** found a job as a carpenter and then moved on to fine woodworking and constructing elegant furniture. His studio in East Burke, Vt., is next to the house where he lives with his wife and two children. "The challenge for me now," he reports, "is to balance the quality of the work that comes out of this shop with the reality of earning a fair price for a day's work in the Northeast Kingdom." Clarner Woodworks is a member of the juried Guild of Vermont Furniture Makers. ✳ **(Mary) Helene Robertson** recently relocated from Brooklyn, N.Y., to Hilo, Hawaii. Helene made this move to the Big Island in order to be closer to her mother and to enjoy paradise all year round. Hopefully, by the time this column goes to print, she will have found gainful employment and learned to surf! She has also joined **Gene Swift** as a class cosecretary, so please drop her a

note and let her know what's happening with you. —Class Secretaries: *M. Helene Robertson (mhrobertson.94@alumni.middlebury.edu), 84 Pukihae St., #1403, Hilo, HI 96720; and Gene Swift (geneswift.94@ alumni.middlebury.edu), 24463 Montevista Cir., Valencia, CA 91354.*

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In July 2004, **Jake Kritzer** finished a post-doc in Windsor, Ontario: "Living right on the border with Detroit, I became a big Pistons fans and am therefore a happy man these days. I've now moved to NYC to begin a new job with Environmental Defense as a staff scientist working on marine conservation issues in the Northeast. Living in New York is great, and I'd love to catch up with any Midd alums in town. I can be reached at jkritzer@environmentaldefense.org." ✷ Jon and **Nell Cross Beckerman** live in Greenwich Village in Manhattan. Nell is a freelance producer at VH1, while Jon is the co-creator of NBC's *Ed.* ✷ **Clay Blanchard** wants to know: "Anyone living in Philly? After almost seven years living and working in Asia (Vietnam, Thailand), I'm returning to the U.S. This fall ('04), I'm attending Wharton for my MBA." ✷ In Syracuse, N.Y., **Scott McNany** is an assistant art director at Siano Pinckney Hugo Advertising. He formerly worked at the Syracuse *Post-Standard.* ✷ The marriage of **Bethany Saulpaugh** and Joseph Fitzgerald took place in Mead Chapel on July 17. A graduate of the Univ. of N.C. School of Dentistry, Bethany is employed by Milton (Vt.) Family Dentistry. Her husband, who graduated from UVM College of Medicine, is employed by Fletcher Allen Health Care. ✷ **Wendy Ekman** and **Arnold Lewis** were married in Lake George, N.Y., on September 4, 2004. Joining them were **Tracey Grant**, Jackie Pelton Hoglund '97, **David Zappulla**, and Barbara Holme Conroe '53. The newlyweds are living in Boulder, Colo., where they would love to hear from MiddKids at WendyEkman@yahoo.com and alewis@dawsonschool.org. Arnold is the head of the foreign language department at the Alexander Dawson School in Lafayette, Colo. He still takes high school kids to Chile in the summers, to do public service work and ski in the Andes. Wendy recently left her position at the Colorado State Public Defender's Office and is now an associate at Cooper & Clough, P.C., a Denver law firm specializing in medical malpractice defense. ✷ Paul and **Mara Rendi Farris** send news of the arrival of son Karsten Alexander on January 28, 2004. They're still in Hanover, N.H., where Mara completed her Ph.D. in June: "I have only two more years of med school until I can finally get a real job!" —Class Secretaries: *Gregory Friberg (drgfri@yahoo.com), 1850 North Clark, #3009, Chicago, IL 60614; and Martha Mullane (marthamullane@hotmail.com), 114 Marshall St., Watertown, MA 02472.*

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On September 11, a group gathered at Midd's new library for the dedication of the **Jeffrey D. Bittner** '96 Memorial Terrace. The terrace is absolutely lovely. Located just above the main entrance, it will serve as a perfect spot for students to socialize, take a study break, and enjoy a view of campus. The Class of 1996 will also be able to use it as a special gathering spot for future reunion weekends. The dedication ceremony featured several speakers, including Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson, Dean of Library and Information Services Barbara Doyle-Wilch, and College Chaplain Laurel Macaulay Jordan '79. Special tributes were made by Pam

Newsmakers

A Vermont resident since 1970, **Randy Brock '65**, of Swanton, was elected state auditor in November. Since retiring in January 2003 as executive VP of risk oversight for Fidelity Investments in Boston, Randy decided to run for auditor—because he knows the job and because retirement does not agree with him.

Mark Patinkin '74, a columnist at the *Providence Journal*, received the top feature-writing award in a competition sponsored by the American Association of Sunday and Feature Editors. The honor included $1,000 for first place in the general feature-writing competition for newspapers in the 75,000–175,000 daily circulation category.

Stanley Fields '76 was recently appointed to the National Advisory General Medical Sciences Council by Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson. Stanley is a professor of genome sciences and of medicine at the University of Washington in Seattle, where he also serves as an adjunct professor of microbiology and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator.

Christopher Merrill '79, director of the International Writing Program at the University of Iowa, has been selected to receive the 2005 Kostas Kyriazis Award, Greece's most prestigious journalism award. He is only the third American to receive the honor, joining Tom Friedman and Kati Marton. The award from the Kostas Kyriazis Foundation recognizes Merrill's forthcoming book from Random House, *Things of the Hidden God*, as well as the body of his journalistic work. This book describes the transformative pilgrimages he made to sacred Mount Athos, in Greece, in the aftermath of the Balkan wars of the 1990s.

Philip Hamilton '82 was awarded a 2004 New York Dance and Performance Award (Bessie) for his body of work as a composer in dance and theater. He was cited for "enriching the dance community with lush soundscapes of percussion, jazz, and world rhythms that embody dance." Limited editions of his new recording, *Blues, Rhythm, Rhythm & Blues*, are now available online.

Alexandra Kotur '92, a senior features editor at *Vogue*, recently published a book, *Carolina Herrera: Portrait of a Fashion Icon* (Assouline 2004).

Matt Power '96 is an India-based reporter for National Public Radio, *Harper's*, the *Christian Science Monitor*, and several other publications. Back on campus last fall, he spoke on "Dispatches from the Rubble: Encounters with Fixers, Spooks, Embeds, and the Afghani Elvis."

Jennifer Andrews '98 and a team of her fellow students at MIT's Sloan School of Management recently won $10,000 in a competition combining the innovations of MIT's scientists with the entrepreneurship of Sloan students. The cash will pay for business plans to make a reality of LiquidPiston, Inc., an engine that uses water in place of traditional pistons, needs 50 percent less fuel, and emits 90 percent less of carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide.

Middlebury neuroscience major **Rebecca Brakeley '04** was named the winner of CSTV College Sports Television's inaugural $5,000 Diane Geppi-Aikens Scholarship. Rebecca was the MVP of the 2004 NCAA Women's Division III Lacrosse Championship game.

Maxine Atkins Smith (M.A. French '50) is a board member of the Memphis-based National Civil Rights Museum, which recently awarded her its prestigious Freedom Award. Past winners include Jimmy Carter, Rosa Parks, and Nelson Mandela. A 47-year member of the Memphis chapter of NAACP and former president of the Memphis school board, she is also considered the conscience of the Tennessee Board of Regents, the body that supervises Tennessee's state universities and colleges.

Bittner (Jeff's twin sister) and by **Dan Rice**, his best friend and roommate for many years. Other '96s attending the ceremony were **Jess Angell**, **Allison Baratta**, **Brad Corrigan**, **Eric Davis**, **Jethro Ferguson**, **Molly Bschorr Ferguson**, **Amanda Gordon Fletcher**, **Scott Holmes**, **Andrew Kvaal**, **Ashley McMullin**, **Stuart Salyer**, and **Charlie Whinery**. ✷ **Brad Corrigan**, Pete Heimbold '99, and Chad Urmston '98 had their final concert as Dispatch on Saturday, July 31, at the Hatch Shell in Boston. The performance was expected to draw an audience of perhaps 15,000, but fans started setting up on the Esplanade as early as the night before in order to snag good seats, and the crowd grew so large on Saturday (over 110,000) that Storrow Drive (the highway that runs past the Hatch Shell) had to be closed both ways. Way to end on a high note, Brad! The Class of 1996 is proud that we were your first fans, and we wish you well on your solo career. To see pictures of the historic last Dispatch gig, and info on what Brad is up to now, visit www.braddigan.com. ✷ Head to your nearest bookstore and pick up *Nine Hills to Nambonkaha: Two Years in the Heart of an African Village* by **Sarah Erdman**. It chronicles Sarah's experience serving in the Peace Corps as a health volunteer in northern Côte d'Ivoire. The winner of the 2004 Paul Cowan Nonfiction Award for Best Book by a Peace Corps Volunteer, it also won the *New York Times* Editor's Choice award for travel literature. Sarah is working as a placement officer for Central Asia, Eastern Europe, and Jordan at Peace Corps headquarters in D.C. For the past year, she has been speaking about West African culture and the Peace Corps to a wide range of audiences across the country, while freelancing on the side. ✷ **Jennifer Manseau Wood** and her husband have had a very busy couple of years! They were married in July 2002, bought their first house (in Fairfax, Vt.) in May 2003, and welcomed daughter Charlotte Rebecca on January 31, 2004. ✷ Allison Taylor Libby arrived on March 9, much to the delight of parents Brad '95 and **Kara Lachowitz Libby**. ✷ J.K. and **Heidi Hirschberg Fagan** welcomed son Henry Howe Griffin Fagan ("Griffin") on October 1. The Fagans live in Boston, where J.K. is VP of structured products at State Street Global Markets, while Heidi is a marketing manager for John Hancock Financial Services. ✷ According to a Buffalo newspaper article, **Josh Bruzgul** married Stephanie Burruano at midnight on July 4, aboard the *Grand Lady Yacht*, Grand Island, Niagara Falls. Josh is a vet at the Buffalo Small Animal Hospital, while Stephanie is attending Daemen College for a master's in physician assistant studies. For their honeymoon, they traveled to Greece for the Olympic Games. ✷ **Amy Atwood** and **Andrew Kvaal** were married in Mead Chapel on July 24, with a reception following at the Swift House. Celebrating with them were **Eric Davis**, **Mike Kreuzer**, **Dan Rice**, **Stuart Salyer**, **Charlie Whinery**, **Jess Angell**, **Molly Bschorr Ferguson**, **Jenny Fisher**, **Ashley McMullin**, **Jethro Ferguson**, **Amanda Gordon Fletcher**, Missy Foote (women's lacrosse coach), **Allison Baratta**, **Todd Barnes**, **Craig Beni**, **Ian Brodie**, **Brad Corrigan**, **Kevin Creeden**, **Ben Hartley**, **Scott** and Sarah Archabal '95 **Holmes**, **Steve Kocaj**, **Debbie Bailey Kreuzer**, **Cullen Meade**, **Corie Pierce**, **Josh Walker**, **Ian Wolfe**, Barbara and Hugh Marlow '57, Nick '97 and Becky Cowgill Wilkoff '97, and Jocelyn Nill '97. Amy and Andrew are living in the Beacon Hill section of Boston. Amy teaches first grade in Harvard, Mass., and Andrew is a principal at the Parthenon Group. ✷ Laura Lovgren and **Scott Paul** were married recently in Omaha, Neb. They're living in London, England, where Scott is the head of labor sales at Nomura International. ✷ Please continue to send us your news and updates on friends We love hearing from you!

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Liza Ward's first novel, *Outside Valentine*, was released on September 1. Be sure to pick up a copy and keep your eyes open for her book tour. ✷ **Matt Rudnick** informs us that **Jon McCall** reported from the *Sports Illustrated* hospitality tent, with **Maggie Bittinger Liljegren**, that all was well in sunny Athens, Greece, and they were enjoying the Olympics! ✷ **Lauren Shuman** is living in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., working on a master's in marine biology and working as a research diver for National Coral Reef Institute. She started off 2004 with a lot of laughs, ringing in the new year with old pal **Adam Coldsnow**, a stained-glass artist in Austin, who remains a true free spirit. ✷ We hear that **Pete Johnson** is working in Vermont on his own organic farm, Pete's Greens. He ships out 800 pounds of salad and braising greens each week to many retailers and to upscale restaurants in Boston. ✷ **Annalisa Parent** is teaching French at the Lake Champlain Waldorf School in Shelburne, Vt. She's also part of the school's administrative team. ✷ In Massachusetts, **Radhames Nova** is the director of development at the Lawrence Boys & Girls Club. ✷ **Christine Griffin Young** (cyoung@elaineturner.com) writes that she received a degree in fashion from the California College of Arts and Crafts and moved to Houston with husband Scott. In Texas, she designs and does product development for Elaine Turner, a handbag manufacturer. Her husband is a structural geologist for Anadarko Petroleum. ✷ When Lena Sullesta and **Andrew Jessen** were married at the Univ. of Chicago's Bond Chapel on June 19, the traditional Filipino wedding traditions were observed, including primary sponsors and cord, candle, and veil bearers. A reception followed at the Hotel Inter-Continental in Chicago. Both received MBA's from the Univ. of Chicago. ✷ On July 17, **Katherine Oates** and Michael Sweeny were married at the Country Club in Brookline, Mass. She's teaching kindergarten at St. David's School in NYC; Michael is an associate at Riverside Holdings, an energy investment fund of the Carlyle Group. ✷ Amy Leibowitz '00 married **Josh Shapiro** in Eagles Mere, Pa., on August 28. Josh is the assistant soccer coach at Lafayette College, while Amy is getting her master's in sports management at George Washington Univ. ✷ The men's hockey players from the class of '97 had a busy summer and fall: **Chris Clough** married Leah Bagley on August 20 in Kennebunkport, Maine. Attending the wedding were **Jim Walsh**, **Mike Anastasio**, **Marc Belliveau**, **Tim Fox**, **Kyle Reis**, and **Jackie Pelton**. ✷ **Jim Walsh** married Carolyn Ruscitto on September 25 in Boston. **Mike Anastasio**, **Marc Belliveau**, **Kyle Reis**, **Chris Clough**, **Tim Fox**, **Sebastien** and Melissa Stewart '99 **Bilodeau**, **Etienne Bilodeau**, and **Jackie Pelton** were all there to celebrate. ✷ **Marc Belliveau** married Alison Daher on October 9, also in Boston, with many Midd hockey and golf players in attendance! ✷ Finally, we'd both like to report our own weddings. With Ashley Nill Honerkamp '95, **Jen Horn**, **Amy Nichols**, **Becky Cowgill Wilkoff**, Holly Beni Harty '86, and Charlie Whinery '96 standing by their sides, **Jocelyn Nill** married Craig Beni '96 on August 14 in Lexington, Mass. There were over 30 Middlebury friends celebrating with them. **Jackie Pelton** and Brad Hoglund were married on November 20 in Boston, Mass., with many Midd friends helping to celebrate. We would love to hear from all of you. Please send any news to Jocelyn or Jackie.

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98

After a two-year stint as managing editor of the National Interest in Washington, D.C., **Damjan de Krnjevic-Miskovic** has returned home to serve as a special adviser to the president of Serbia. He will cover foreign policy and Kosovo-Metohija. "It's an honor to be called to the presidential service of a visionary statesman. If anyone is passing through, please look me up. I'm at krnjevic@gmail.com." ✷ **Abby Manzella** has returned to New England to get her Ph.D. in English at Tufts. ✷ **Cara O'Reilly** is living in New York and loving it. ✷ Newlyweds **Daniel** and **Becky Walldroff Urbano** have settled in Oakland, Calif., where Dan is a software engineer and Becky is an architectural conservator. ✷ The July marriage of **Emily Olson** and Daniel McLean took place in Nahant, Mass. Emily is an art teacher at Nashua (N.H.) High School, while Dan is a correspondent for the *Manchester Union Leader*. ✷ Stephen '94 and **Andress Beck Pettibone** welcomed their first child, daughter Hannah Andress, on August 25. ✷ **Tyler Nottberg** reports that new daughter, Maggie, recently enjoyed her "first pumpkin patch photo session" and "continues to demonstrate each day why she is such a blessing!"

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99

Anne Richter has begun her ER residency at the Univ. of Ariz.; **Kristine Kraushaar** has started work in Boston on land use; **Ana Cardenas** continues to photograph weddings and other human subjects; **Lees Falaleev** has been traveling the world, searching for antiques; **Jess Wrightsman** is living in Portland, Ore.; **Joe Kraft** survived hurricane season in New Orleans, but doubts he can make it through Mardi Gras. ✷ **Adam Burns**, after liquidating his furniture and desk chair (thanks, from your humble correspondent, **Pete Steinberg**, for the chair), has fled from Boston to NYC, where he's part of the DA's office working with juvenile offenders. ✷ Tamsin and **Jeff Trail** are settled in Back Bay, where Jeff has landed a great new job with Arrow, a critical-care device company. When not snaking catheters into patients' hearts, he's out on the town with brother Rob '02. ✷ **Charles Macintosh, JP Gowdy**, and **Jeff Trail** have been active on the marathon circuit, even though Mac's back is no longer functioning. ✷ After their March 20, 2004, wedding in Santa Barbara, Calif., **Tom** and **Kristen Vogel Blabey** honeymooned for two weeks at Turtle Island, Fiji. Now Tom is working at EF Education in Cambridge, Mass., doing international adult and

student travel planning. Kristen, who graduated from Suffolk Univ. Law School in May 2003, is an attorney at Warren, Hensley and Bowen, LLP, in Boston. ✷ **John Felton** married Ann Russell '01 in Los Angeles on July 10. The usual crowd of Middlebury friends was in attendance, most prominently **Greg Parent** and **Sara Doniger**, as well as **Rob Levy**, **Chris Lindstrom**, **Dan Meyer**, **Liz Cassidy**, **Molly Magill**, **Brad** and Susie Church '97 **Maxwell**. After learning how to surf in Tahiti for their honeymoon, John and Ann are now settled into Seattle with a newfound respect for raincoats. ✷ **Chris Lindstrom** and Abbey Haber '01 were married in Lincoln, Mass., on September 5. **John Felton, Rob Levy, Brad Maxwell, Dan Meyer, Adam Burns, Mark Edgarton, Mike Cormier, Pete Steinberg, Sara Doniger**, and **Greg Parent** were in attendance. Now safely back in New York, the newlyweds encountered a rather large rainstorm and unfavorable series of tides and trade winds that pushed their honeymoon from Grenada to the coast of Maine. ✷ **Deana Becker** reaffirmed her vows to Paul Varghese on September 12 in a small private ceremony at home in Acton, Mass. The "Not so Suite" was in attendance, complete with **Anne Richter, Kristine Kraushaar, Ana Cardenas, Lees Falaleev, Jess Wrightsman**, and **Joe Kraft**. The festivities included an interpretive dance. Deana and Paul are living in San Francisco, where Deana is chief of inspection in the city's foreign coffee bean importer division. ✷ **Alex Cranmer** received his M.F.A. in acting from U.C.S.D./La Jolla Playhouse in May 2004: "I now live on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, and love NYC. I recently shot a co-star role on NBC's *Third Watch* (airing in early November). I have a small recurring paramedic role on CBS's *Guiding Light* (begins airing in December. Finally, a SAG independent film called *Stranger,* where I play the lead, will be released for festival competition in early 2005." ✷ **Stephanie Saldana** completed her master's in theological studies from Harvard last spring. She received a Fulbright scholarship to spend the year in Damascus, Syria, researching the role of Jesus in Islam and how the figure of Jesus can serve as a springboard for dialogue between Muslims and Christians. ✷ I (**Melissa Pruessing**) am settling in to life in the retail world and looking forward to re-launching an overhauled kmart.com in mid-November. Make sure to check it out! I look forward to getting updates from you about what's going on in your life.

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00 REUNION CLASS

Sarah Cooley and **Dana Dunleavy** are planning to attend reunion next spring. Now in her last year of vet school at Cornell, Sarah was taking the national board exam in December. She recently "went hiking in Vermont with Dana, Shams Helminski '01, Liz Beaton '02, and my brother, John. Dana, who is applying for residency programs in interventional radiology, was recently in Rochester, N.Y., for a monthlong externship. My horse, Timmy, is almost 23 years old and showing no signs of slowing down. Dana has even learned to ride him!" ✷ Still in D.C., **Erica Hill** is working at the National Cathedral School for Girls. She gets together with Bobolink alums frequently for food, wine, and general merriment. She recently saw Ben and **Christa Leonard Abbott** and baby John Foster, who was born in April. Erica was starting synchronized swim team in October. ✷ **Anne McDonough** has been working for the travel section of the *Washington Post* for two years. In the midst of Hurricane Ivan, she was sent to check out Orlando hotels, airport updates, and regional events. Last May she went back to China as a graduate rep on an incredible Middlebury tour with Prof. Nick Clifford and a group of alums (and parents of alums—**Kara Tsuboi**'s folks were on the trip). ✷ **David Paul** has a new job, selling residential real estate in Boston: "I get to talk to people for a living! Quite a change from the technology world. I can't believe how many people are getting married! I've been to four Middlebury weddings recently: Dave Sardilli '99 and Laura Brown '98 were married in March, my brother's (Scott '96) in April, Mindy Atwood '99 in May, and Jess Silverman '00 and Bob Bryan '01 in June. ✷ For her marriage to Stephen Eide on July 9, **Irene Flowers** wore the wedding gown originally worn in 1907 by her great-grandmother. Mindy Atwood Flater '99 was matron of honor. The newlyweds are both graduate students at Boston College. Irene is completing a master's in political science, while Stephen is pursuing a doctorate in political philosophy. ✷ **Isaac Ro**, a research analyst covering biotech stocks at Leerink Swann, was justified in "hoping against hope, once again, that this is the year for the Red Sox." ✷ "Things in Boston are great, reports **Jess Szubart**. Still working in EF, she moved across the river into a "quaint, cozy apartment" in Somerville. Jess recently visited **Katie Zug Volkmar** in her new house in Colorado Springs. ✷ **Chris Orchard** has also moved across to Somerville. Now a staff writer for the *South End News*, Chris has been a freelance reporter for various weekly Boston area papers. ✷ "While continuing to work at Lightbridge as an account manager, **Michaela Betty** is "going to culinary school at night to pursue a different lifestyle. I've also been spending time volunteering through the MSPCA, helping people with HIV and AIDS take care of their pets." ✷ Still a designer at *Boston Magazine*, **Lena Watts** is also still working on *Abroad View* (www.abroadviewmagazine.com) with **Meeghan Murphy, M.C. Platt**, and Sherry Shwarz '99. Lena writes: "It's a nonprofit now and has a national circulation. I recently started playing Ultimate Frisbee and might be a convert. I'm looking forward to spending Thanksgiving with **Melanie Curtis** out in L.A." This fall, Mel participated in the U.S. Skydiving Nationals. We'll have more news on how her team fared in our next column! ✷ **Lucy Wickramasinghe** writes: "I'm teaching high school French and Spanish in Los Altos, while living in San Francisco. Robert is in school for graphic design in the city as well. Life is good." ✷ **Tim Dewey-Mattia** recently took a position in San Francisco, where he teaches strength training, boxing, general carpentry, and environmental awareness. ✷ **Okomboli Ong'ong'a** writes: "On August 22, I got back from Kuwait, where I was for 16 months and many days. Drove from Tampa to Palo Alto, and on the way I got to have breakfast with **Katinka LoCascio**. I'm working towards an MBA at the Stanford Graduate School of Business, where there are two other MiddKids, Molly Campbell Vorhees '98 and Jocelyn Hunter '01." ✷ **Jeff Kendig** spent the last two years working as line manager on an offshore oil rig. He quit in May and has started the MBA program at UCLA Anderson School of Management. He recently went to a Chargers game with Matt Wool '00, Brian Cagle '99, and Dan Prepas '03. ✷ **Katinka LoCascio** has been in Santa Fe for three years, running her own private practice as a cranial sacral therapist and exploring the magic of New Mexico. ✷ **Helen Gemmill**, **Lizzie Lokey**, **Maria Banman**, and Katherine Keen '97 are all living in Boulder, Colo. Helen reports they're having a blast and welcome visitors. They see **Adam Barron** frequently. Helen was throwing a huge Halloween party at the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art. Expected Halloween visitors included **Katharine Lord**, **Marisa Budwick**, **Katherine Lockwood Bracken**, **Kelly Box Couch**, and **Noelle Kvasnosky**. ✷ **Rachel Davis** found that fall in Chicago feels like Vermont: "I'm loving it but I'm sure that I will not be loving the winter. Med school is kicking my you-know-what." Rachel recently talked to **Megan Harris**, who started med school at UVM this fall: "It is so nice that we are both going through this together—four years after everyone else. **Janice Rodman** is also attending Loyola for med school." ✷ **Kimberly Lange Roberts** is a hospital nurse in Starkville, Miss. She and her husband are also professional photographers. They have two sons (5 and 2). ✷ **Jim** and **Jess Howe Thomson** are enjoying life in Woods Hole, "where we're learning to catch fish, grow tomatoes, and eat both—before our puppy has a chance to chew on them." ✷ During summer vacation at the Jersey shore, **Anthony D'Avella** caught up with **Richie Richardson**, **Rob Johnson**, and **Peter Winstead**. Still working with OperationSmile in the London, U.K., office, Anthony claims he took time in August to travel to San Francisco and take an 11-day sail to Alaska with **Zach Tofias**. Anthony can't wait to see the rest of the crew at reunion in June 2005. ✷ **Jenny Williams, Jessa Martin**, and **Deirdre Connolly** spent the first weekend of June in Woodstock, Vt., running the 2004 Covered Bridges Half Marathon. They had a great time, the weather was perfect, and all finished under two hours. They often get together in Boston with **Jen Harding** and **Whitney Tremaine**. ✷ After teaching high school history for three years in Washington state, **Adam Popkin** is doing a master's in education at UVM. "When I finish next summer, I'll be looking for another teaching job in northern Vermont." ✷ Our 5th Reunion is fast approaching, June 3–5, 2005! We need your help to make it memorable. Please contact Phoebe Chase (phoebe_chase@yahoo.com) or Derek Esposito (derekesposito16@hotmail.com) if you would like to help. They're looking for volunteers to make a class banner, coordinate sports activities for the weekend (golf, tennis, hiking, etc.), help with the reunion gift committee, assist with the reunion Web site, and/or to take photos of our class throughout the weekend. If you have any other ideas of activities you'd like to help plan for the weekend, please let them know.

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01

Megan Olson is in her last year of dental school in San Francisco. ✷ **Lindsay Frost** has moved to Phoenix, Ariz., where she's doing freelance editing. ✷ **Becky Ruby** spent the summer working with the press office of the Speaker of the House (J. Dennis Hastert). She's back in Boston finishing up grad school, with plans to return to D.C. upon her graduation. ✷ A May 2004 graduate

Save the Dates

JANUARY 19
Seattle Chapter lecture with Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Jeffrey H. Byers

JANUARY 20
Rocky Mountain Chapter lecture with Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Jeffrey H. Byers

JANUARY 29
Middlebury February Celebration for midyear graduates
Men's Alumni Hockey Game

FEBRUARY 5
New York Chapter young alumni formal

FEBRUARY 10
Hartford/New Haven Chapter Miss Saigon Theater

FEBRUARY 12
New York Chapter lecture with Associate Professor of History of Art & Architecture Pieter Broucke

MARCH 9
Jackson Hole Middlebury reception and ski day

MARCH 11
Sun Valley Middlebury reception

MARCH 31
New York Chapter lecture with Curt C. & Else Silberman Professor of Jewish Studies Robert S. Schine and Rabbi Ira Schiffer

APRIL 7
Boston Chapter lecture with Curt C. & Else Silberman Professor of Jewish Studies Robert S. Schine and Rabbi Ira Schiffer

APRIL 28
Vermont Chapter lecture with Professor of History John M. McCardell, Jr.

JUNE 3–5
Reunion

JUNE 30
The Annual Fund's fiscal year ends—Every Gift Counts

AUGUST 14–20
Alumni College trip to Red Lodge, Montana, with Associate Professor of Geology David P. West Jr.

A complete listing of events is available on the Web at www.middlebury.edu/alumni/events/

of the Univ. of Md. School of Law, **Jen Cupani** works for Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr in D.C., where she has settled into her new apartment. ✷ Since completing her job in Italy, **Elizabeth Perkins** has started a Ph.D. program in art history at Columbia Univ. She reports that she's happy to rejoin her Midd friends in New York. ✷ **Sarah Theall** spent last summer working as a summer associate at Boston law firm Goulston & Storrs. She has accepted a permanent position at the firm, to begin upon her graduation from Northeastern Law School in May. ✷ **Kelsey Doub** is working with Haley & Aldrich, an environmental consulting firm. ✷ Living in New Jersey, **Reid Porter** is an international territory manager for Baker and Taylor. ✷ After two years in publishing in Philadelphia and a year of studying at Syracuse Univ., **Nick Kuckel** has entered grad school at UMass-Amherst, where he's working towards a Ph.D. in mathematics. ✷ **Kara Bonneau** finished her M.A. in sociology at Duke and has started work at the Duke Center for Child and Family Policy. ✷ **Lisa Stifler** spent last year with Public Allies, an AmeriCorps program, working with impoverished Latino and African American families in Durham, N.C. Now in her first year studying at the Univ. of N.C. School of Law, she's in the joint J.D./master's in social work program. ✷ **Margaret Aycock** spent the summer in Europe, studying in Eastern Europe (Budapest, Krakow, and Prague) and in Paris. She was able to spend some time in the south of France, as well as take trips to Munich, Interlaken, and Florence. Back in Boston, she's finishing her MBA in international business at Northeastern. While in the Czech Republic, Margaret met up with **Hilary Watts**, who is teaching English in Prague. ✷ Many weddings to report, some promising photos for a future issue. **Leslie Fox** and **Matthew Arnould** were married on September 18 at the Wequassett Inn in Chatham, Mass. The wedding party was full of Midd people including maid of honor Jessica Fox '07, bridesmaids **Kristen Sylva**, **Kate Griffiths**, and **Becky Ruby**, and groomsmen **James Tsai**, **David Cohen**, **Corey Wilk**, and **Jason Ienner**. Also attending were **Sarah Theall**, **Lindsay Frost**, Valerie O'Hearn '02, **Tom Keon**, Sam Dettmann '00, **Kelsey Doub**, **Michael Kerkorian**, Neil Onsdorff '03, **Peter Jacoby**, Jeanne Restivo '99, **Chris Kestner**, **Matt Markowski**, Lauren Brierley '03, **Kelvin Roldan**, **Chris Cheang**, and **Ben Johns**. After honeymooning in South Africa and Mauritius, Leslie and Matt continue to live in Boston, Mass. ✷ **Jennie Mandeville** and **Mark Harrington** were married in Lynnfield, Mass., on August 7, bringing together **Lisa Engelstein**, **Rachel Rackow**, **Katie Pruitt**, **Tom Hale**, **Russ Miller**, **Arv Ponnambalam**, **Lindsay Frost**, Ashley Elpern '02, **Catherine DiBenedetto**, **Betsy Cramer**, **Ruth Howell**, **Rifat Hasan**, **Kate Klapfish**, and **Tejas Parikh**. After the wedding and reception at the Boston Harbor Hotel, the happy couple honeymooned in the South Pacific and returned home to Beacon Hill. ✷ On September 5, **Abbey Haber** and Chris Lindstrom '99 were married in Lincoln, Mass. Classmates celebrating with them included **Kelsey Doub**, **Jessica Bean**, **Elizabeth Doyle**, **Michael Kerkorian**, **Dan Goldman**, **Chris Everett**, **Douglas Parobeck**, **Kate Sabatini**, **Elissa Burnell**, **Ann Russell Felton**, and **C. Ryan Miller**. Other Midds included '99s Brad Maxwell, John Felton, Robby Levy, Dan Meyer, Adam Burns, Sara Doniger, Molly MaGill, Greg Parent, Pete Steinberg, Mike Cormier, Mark Edgarton, Susie Church Maxwell '97, Jani Heikkonen '97, Doug Haber '04, and Ngetha Waithaka '04. ✷ Shannon Egan '02 and **Jeff Vollmer** were married in July in Westchester, N.Y. ✷ **Greta Simmons** and **Chris Herbert** were married in July in Southport, Conn. In attendance at the wedding were **Victor Shaio**, **Carrie Thompson**, **Tory**

LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

English

This spring, **Wesley McNair** (M.A. '68, M.Litt. '75) will be in northern Italy at the Bellagio Center of the Rockefeller Foundation, an international retreat for writers, artists, scientists, and scholars. ✷ *The Art of Ann Templeton: A Step Beyond* by **Michael Chesley Johnson** (M.A. '82), coming out in March 2005, looks at the 30-year career of nationally known landscape painter Ann Templeton. A contributing editor for *The Pastel Journal,* Michael has written for *American Artist* and other arts publications. Turn to www.MichaelChesleyJohnson.com to view his own work as a painter. ✷ **Bill Clough** (M.A. '99) is the new dean of faculty at the Berkshire School in Sheffield, Mass. He has previously taught English and history at Kent's Hill School and Tabor Academy. ✷ Last fall, **Elizabeth Kimball** (M.A. '03) played a 90-year-old woman in *The Cripple of Inishmaan,* a play by Martin McDonagh, on stage at the Players' Ring. In addition to her theater career, Elizabeth teaches seventh grade at Lawrence, Mass. ✷ **Mickie Sebenoler** ('00-'03), a teacher in the Columbus, Ohio, Public School District, was one of 17 selected recently to serve on the Educator Standards Board, developing education standards for Ohio's teachers.

French

Eileen Zaledonis (M.A. '65) is serving on the board of the Citizen's Scholarship Foundation of Lancaster County, Pa. A supervisor in the Reading Clinic at Millersville Univ., she retired from Warwick School District as a reading specialist. ✷ *The Art of Monhegan Island* (2004) is the latest in a series of fine art books related to Maine themes, from the writer/picture editor team of **Carl Little** (M.A. '86) and Arnold Skolnick. A poem by Carl appears in *The Breath of Parted Lips: Voices from the Robert Frost Place,* Volume II. His poems have also appeared in *Paris Review* and *Hudson Review.* A resident of Mount Desert Island in Maine, Carl is director of communications at the Maine Community Foundation. ✷ **Paula Brown** (M.A. '94), a French teacher in the Roanoke County (Va.) School System, has been awarded a Fulbright Teacher grant to teach in France. ✷ **Karl Bissinger** ('97) was ordained as a deacon on July 17 in St. Mary's Cathedral in Fall River, Mass. Prior to entering the seminary in August 2000, he was a substitute teacher of French at the Morton Middle School in Fall River. ✷ **Charles Fleis** ('99, Spanish '96, '97) has joined the faculty of Bridgewater College as an assistant prof. of Spanish and French.

Italian

Dona Frauenhofer (M.A. '83) works for Interpreters and Translators, Inc., of Manchester, Conn., interpreting Italian and English for court cases, depositions, and other situations where a language barrier exists. She also gives private instruction and teaches—at the Edward Sullivan Senior Center and the Litchfield Community Center—and volunteers at St. Francis of Assisi School in Torrington.

Russian

Gloria Donen Sosin (M.A. '48) has published a new book, *Red Letter Year: Munich 1950–51,* written from the perspective of a newlywed American Jewish couple, living in postwar American-occupied Germany. She and husband Gene were members of the Harvard Refugee Interview Project team of 25 graduate students in Russian language and Soviet affairs from Harvard and Columbia, under the sponsorship of the U.S. Air Force. (To receive a signed copy, send a $25 check to Gloria at 19 Cushman Rd., White Plains, NY 10606.)

Spanish

John Jay Allen (M.A. '57), prof. emeritus of the Univ. of Ky., department of Hispanic studies, was recently awarded an honorary doctoral degree at Middlebury. Taking a hiatus from retirement, he is joining the faculty of the Spanish School at Middlebury to teach a class on Don Quijote. ✷ **Dolores Farkas Parker** (M.A. '64) is the director of American University's academic programs in Bangkok, Thailand. Her earlier career as a State Department officer took her to Africa and South America. ✷ In Arizona, **Christopher Buckley** (M.A. '70) is a legal and commercial translator for the business community in the Greater Phoenix area. ✷ After two years in Madrid, Spain, where she worked for the Fulbright Commission, **Beth Bonner** (M.A. '03) has joined the foreign language department at Mount St. Joseph Academy in Flourtown, Pa. ✷ **Rebecca Lynch Nichols** (M.A. '03) is a Spanish teacher at North Yarmouth Memorial School in Maine. ✷ **Pamela Sharron** (M.A. '03) has been living in Madrid, Spain, working as an English as a second language teacher. ✷ **Jessica Clifford** (M.A. '04) began teaching Spanish at Saugus (Mass.) High School this fall.

Jennings, **Erin Sussman**, **Francisco Peschiera**, **Chad Malone**, **Mike Saunders**, **Leslie Edwards**, and **Lauren Cullings**. **Peter Day** and his band, The Grift, played at the reception.

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02

Christine Fillmore is pursuing her Ph.D. in genetics at the Tufts Univ. Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences. She was selected from more than 500 applicants for a Provost Fellowship that will help fund her Ph.D. work. Christine spent the previous two years doing research in pediatric oncology at Dana Farber Cancer Institute. ✷ **Sarah Logan** spent last year working for the U.S. Spine and Sport Foundation in San Diego, Calif. During the summer she attended language school in Granada, Spain, for a month. This fall she planned to enter medical school. ✷ **Mikey Azzara** is outreach coordinator for NOFA-NJ, the Garden State branch of the Northeast Organic Farming Association. In addition to organizing cooking demonstrations to showcase veggies at the farmers' market, he also added a farm tour and a multicourse meal in a fine restaurant. ✷ **Brianne Jenkins** is the lead teacher of the parent-run Kindergarten-Preschool-Afterschool program at the Warren, Vt., Elementary School. ✷ **Michael Stockwell** is the new language arts teacher at the Grand Isle School, South Hero, Vt. He taught at Middlebury Union Middle School for the two previous years. ✷ **Suzanne Slarsky** and Martin Rodevad were married in Oxford, England, on April 19, 2004. They met during Suzanne's post-Midd sailing trip, and crossed the Atlantic on a 12-meter trimaran before moving to Martin's native Denmark. Now they're living in Oxford, where Suzanne recently completed a master's and is working to promote renewable energy development in the U.K. ✷ **Georgia Goodhue** and Alexander Reath were married August 28 in Marion, Mass. **Ellen Rodman**, Tiffany Brinkmann '01, Kirk Hoffman '01, and Isabella Dana '05 were in the wedding. The newlyweds are living in NYC, where Alexander is an assistant VP in international property insurance at March, the New York insurance brokerage firm. They met in elementary school in Bedford, N.Y.

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03

Congratulations to **Diana Kurkovsky, Allison Perdue**, and **Jason Vrooman**, who are among the 10-15 students admitted this year to the Williams College Graduate Program in the History of Art. Graduates usually go on to museum administrative or curatorial positions or continue with doctoral programs. ✷ **Zachary Ambrose** is the station manager at Valley Vision, a community nonprofit television station serving several communities around Conway, N.H. An accomplished videographer, Zach previously worked for Resort Sports Network, doing editing and directing work. He has written and produced video productions on John Lennon and the Old Man of the Mountain, plus he was a writing intern on the film set of *The Shield* in Hollywood. ✷ **Michael Hatch** won a Rotary scholarship to study for a year at the Univ. of Gavle in Sweden. An international studies major, he is studying language, history, culture, and the arts. ✷ **Brian McCurdy** is working for the Nature Conservancy, while **Brendan Bechtel** works with the Conservation Fund. ✷ In October, **Christopher Brown, Saad Kamal**, and **Victor Dan** were interviewing Midd students for Lehman Brothers. ✷ Best wishes to Reese and **Rita Vincello Forsythe**, who were married on April 24, 2004. They are living in Helena, Mont. ✷ **Mike Romankiewicz** is apprenticing as a carpenter for a "green" contractor in Ripton, Vt. Over a year after graduating, he was still living on campus! He welcomes Midd visitors to the alum-friendly Adirondack View Pub at his residence on Adirondack View.

—Class Secretaries: *Meagan Dodge (mdodge@itsa.ucsf.edu), 2580 Polk St., #11, San Francisco, CA 94109; and Ulises Zanello (uzanello@citi-habitats.com), 64-49 Shaler Ave., Ridgewood, NY 11385.*

04

News is streaming in! **Amanda Knappman** spent the summer in D.C. with a bunch of other MiddKids at the Potomac Theatre Project, with Profs. Cheryl Faraone and Richard Romagnoli. She reports that it was a lot of work and a lot of fun. ✷ After her summer with the Potomac Theatre Project, **Laura Rockefeller** is pursuing a

master's in 19th-century British literature at the Univ. of Va. in Charlottesville. ✷ **Cory Lowe** is enjoying living in Allen as a CRA. ✷ **Lissa James** is an intern on the staff of *High Country News* in Paonia, Colo. Lissa wonders how she'll manage a desk job, since her previous work included packing mules with her brother for an outfitting service last summer and worming at a sheep dairy, milking ewes and making cheese. ✷ **Colin Lewis-Beck** was looking for a job in early fall. He's living in Somerville, Mass., with Midd Ultimate Frisbee players Keegan Uhl '01, **Martha Crootof**, and **Albert Shiue**. ✷ Also in Massachusetts, **Matt Wolf** (who lives with **Gordie Weightman** and Romulo Braga '03) is working in business development and marketing with the New England Patriots. Unfortunately, he informed us that there is already a long line of '04 females looking to meet Tom Brady. We all look forward to the day. ✷ **Sara Sharkey** and **Todd Falcone** are living in Boston, where Sara is working for minority business ventures and Todd works for ABT. ✷ **Pam Chew** completed a summer public relations internship at Hermes of Paris, before traveling in Japan. She's looking for a job and hoping to move into NYC. ✷ Speaking of New York, **Brian Erb** is working in the city as a high school teacher. ✷ **Sandy Spring** was interning at a sports marketing firm until mid-October, after which plans were in the air. She was planning on having a birthday party in the city. ✷ Right outside the city, **John Dorazio** is living in Stamford and working for Cannondale Associates. ✷ **Aaron Barasch** is working at the Democratic house legislature in Harrisburg, Pa. ✷ **Sara Smith** is pursuing a master's in epidemiology and public health, with a potential joint degree with School of Forestry, at Yale Univ. ✷ **Karl Whittington** has begun a doctoral program in medieval art history at UC, Berkeley. ✷ **Ernie Miller** is a running back on the St. Lawrence Valley Trailblazers football team. The Trailblazers began play in the Empire Football League in 2002. ✷ I (Julia) ran into quite the early-fall Midd gathering at Lake George, including **Pavel Gavrilov**, **John Dorazio**, **Justin Garrison**, **Drew West**, **Brandon Lytle**, **Epeli Rokotuiveikau**, **Tom Egan**, **Chris Grant**, **John Parker**, **Chuck Clement**, **Derek Mahoney**, **Gordie Weightman**, **Teddy Flanagan**, **Tom Molnar**, **Samir Ahmed**, **Ethan Pond**, and **Colin Dixon**. A member of the group reported that "although there was an absurd amount of air guitar, resulting in a two-day jam sesh that culminated with an appearance by law enforcement officers, this was a perfect weekend to cap an otherwise uneventful summer." Lakeside, Teddy informed us that he is off to be a newspaper reporter/bartender in St. John, where he welcomes visitors. Brandon updated that he's working as Latin America program manager at the World Trade Center North Carolina to promote healthy trade relationships and organize trade education seminars highlighting investment opportunities between North Carolina's businesses and Latin America. He lives in Raleigh, N.C., and spent the fall being pounded by hurricanes. ✷ Hope everyone is well. Keep us updated. We encourage all '04s to join www.thefacebook.com. A great way to stay in contact with the class.

—Class Secretaries: *Julia Henwood (jhenwood@alumni.middlebury.edu), 235 E. 95th St., #25J, New York, NY 10128; and Athenia (Tina) Fischer (princess1328@yahoo.com), 254A Stagg St., Brooklyn, NY 11206.*

21 **Lawrence Pierce**, 104, of Seattle, Wash., on November 14, 2004. An English major, he began college during World War I and commented in his memoirs ("Reminiscences and Reflections") on the difficulties that arose between "college boys" and "returning servicemen." Living first in Starr, he then moved to the newly opened Hepburn Hall. In the summer between his junior and senior years, he met Reginald Cook and persuaded him to come to Middlebury. A 1924 graduate, Cook went on to become a revered professor and established the College's American literature department. Pierce graduated with a B.S. in English (he was ineligible for a B.A., because he had not taken Greek) and enrolled in graduate courses at the Bread Loaf School of English during its third summer session in 1922. Taking a commission as a second lieutenant in the Infantry Reserve Corps, he attended officer's training camp in the same unit as the son of President Coolidge, with whom he later toured the White House. He also received a White House pass to go stunt flying in an open two-seater plane with Jimmy Doolittle. After a few years in teaching, Pierce relocated to Seattle, where he worked for the Puget Sound Power and Light Company. In the 1930s, he worked for the state of Washington, first in the educational relief administration and then as treasurer of the unemployment compensation and placement division. In the mid-1940s, he shifted to real estate management, becoming VP of J.M. Colman Company in Seattle. He worked in finance and private business, then returned to education and served as administrator of the Head Start program, until retiring in 1970, at age 70. In retirement, Pierce and wife Isabel (Colman) devoted their energies to a four-acre rhododendron garden, which included more than 1,000 varieties of rhododendrons. A founding member of the Rhododendron Species Foundation and Botanical Garden, Pierce also served as president of the Seattle Rhododendron Society. He frequently opened his garden for tours and fundraisers for local organizations. In 1982, he received a gold medal from the American Rhododendron Society for excellence in his work with rhododendrons. A rhododendron species, *piercei*, is named for him, an honor bestowed by the Royal Botanical Garden in Edinburgh, Scotland, for his work in horticulture. A registered rhododendron hybrid, Isabel Pierce, is named for his wife. Predeceased by his wife in 1982, he enjoyed good health until the last two weeks of his life. In 1996, Pierce returned to Middlebury for his 75th Reunion, held the day before his 95th birthday. He leaves sons James, Lawrence, and John Pierce; daughters Elizabeth Atchison and Katharine Pierce; 17 grandchildren (including Serena Maurer '93); and 36 great-grandchildren.

32 **Avis Collins Fleischer**, 93, of Barre, Mass., on October 27, 2004. A native of St. Albans, Vt., she lived in Troy, N.Y.; Washington, D.C.; Swanton, Vt.; and Barre, Mass. She worked at the Brattleboro Retreat, taught mentally challenged adults, and did volunteer work in ghettos in three states. Throughout her life she supported numerous organizations working to create international peace, promote racial harmony and social justice, and reduce hunger. In 1989, she was named Heifer International Volunteer of the Year. She leaves daughter Martha Hurwitz, sons Warren Fleischer and Steve Crofter, nine grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter.

33 **Lyle E. Glazier**, 93, of North Bennington, Vt., on October 21, 2004. With a master's (1937) and a doctorate (1950) from Harvard, he served as headmaster of the Mount Hermon School for Boys (Gill, Mass.) and taught at Bates, Tufts, Harvard, Radcliffe, and SUNY Buffalo, where he was named chair of the American studies department in 1952. He served as Fulbright chair of American studies at the Univ. of Istanbul (Turkey), at Hecattepe Univ. in Ankara (Turkey), and at the Univ. of Madras (India). At Southern Vermont College in Bennington, he served as a volunteer prof. in African American literature from 1984 until 1988. He was the author of several manuscripts, novels, poems, and criticisms. Predeceased by wife Amy Niles Glazier '33 in 1987, he leaves daughters Laura Reid, Susan Glazier Swartz '66 (and husband John D. Swartz '66), and Alis Headlam, as well as brother Lawrence A. Glazier '42. Other deceased Middlebury relatives include brother Melvin H. Glazier '33 and sisters-in-law Bernice Cooke Glazier '34 and Marianne Monroe Glazier '39.

Lois Lewthwaite Walter, 92, of Baytown, Texas, on November 1, 2004. A home economics major at Middlebury, she qualified as a registered dietitian at St. Katherine's Hospital in NYC. She was chief therapeutic dietitian at St. Francis Hospital in Roslyn, N.Y., for 20 years, retiring in 1983. She lived most of her life in Port Washington, N.Y., where she was active in the First United Methodist Church. Preceded in death by husband Theodore F. Walter, she leaves sons Theodore Jr., Donald, and Stuart; daughters Elizabeth Yenetchi and Janice Slakter; eight grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, sister Carol Lewthwaite Lockard '43, and niece Katherine Lockard Stedman '72.

35 **Rudolph V. Bona**, 91, of Maitland, Fla., on September 18, 2004. He attended the Univ. of Md. School of Law in Baltimore. He was employed as a civil engineer, retiring in 1972 after 28 years of service as chief of the engineering division, Office of the Post Engineer at Fort George G. Meade, Md. He and wife Pindell (Brashears) retired to Florida in 1972. Besides his wife of 63 years, he leaves a daughter, Gayle Kinsloe.

Lael Sargent Mancib, 90, of Bristol, R.I., on October 8, 2004. She retired in 1963 from Long Lane School in Middletown, Conn., where she had been a social worker for 27 years. She was also a teacher at Black River High School. Retiring to Ludlow, Vt., she was involved in many community activities. Predeceased by husband Alvin Stuart Mancib, by uncle Albert A. Sargent (Class of 1894), and by cousins Frances Sargent Hoyle '34, George Dann Sargent '57, R. Barton Sargent '32, she leaves four cousins, including Diana Sargent Heaton '64.

36 **Mary Dansereau Howard**, 89, of Leverett, Mass., on August 30, 2004. She taught high school mathematics in Claremont, N.H., at Wilbraham Academy (near Springfield, Mass.) and at Norwalk (Conn.) High School, retiring in 1975. In 1970, she earned a master's in mathematics from Wesleyan Univ. In retirement, she played the cello in the Fairfield County Orchestra and was a member of the Literacy Volunteers. Predeceased by husband Carl D. Howard '30 in December 2000, she leaves daughters Charlotte Haines and Frances Ferguson, son C. Douglas Howard, four grandchildren, and sisters Geraldine Dansereau Miles '40 and Frances Lovejoy.

37 **Caroline Elliott Dorst**, 89, of Nashua, N.H., on October 2, 2004. She studied piano for many years, taught music, and was co-founder and accompanist of a women's glee club in Williamstown, Mass. She served as historian of the Pilgrim John Howland Society. Preceded in death by husband Stanley O. Dorst and grandson Todd Larochelle, she leaves daughter Tina Larochelle, son John S. Dorst, sister-in-law Martha Taylor Elliott '40, and two grandsons. Deceased Middlebury relatives include great-grandfather William M. Ladd (Class of 1837), mother Jeffries Leete Elliott (Class of 1905), sister Sarah Elliott Ordway '35, and brother Asa Leete Elliott '38.

Susan Hathaway Hopper, 88, of Shelburne, Vt., formerly Middlebury, Vt., on September 28, 2004. From 1916 until recently, she lived in Middlebury, where her father, Lewis J. Hathaway, was a professor and chair of the music department at Middlebury College for 25 years. She was active in the Middlebury Congregational Church, Isley Library, and many local organizations. She was also a member of the General and Vermont Societies of Mayflower Descendants. Predeceased by husband Kenneth E. Hopper in 1992, she leaves sons Jackson H. Hopper '61 and Kenneth Jr., daughter Virginia Hopper Hoverman '69 (and husband James Hoverman '69), eight grandchildren (including Heather Mead Jack '95), and 11 great-grandchildren. Her mother was the late Grace Tupper Hathaway '26.

38 **Evelyn Adriance Miles**, 87, of Orono, Maine, on September 21, 2004. Transferring to the Univ. of Maine, she was the first music major there to receive a degree in music (1938). Predeceased by husband E. Kenneth Miles in 1976, she leaves son David Miles, daughter Nancy Zollitsch, and five grandchildren.

39 **Mary Louise Race Tonge**, 86, of Spartansburg, S.C., on September 17, 2004. She served in the Women's Army Corps during World War II. During the 1950s, she and her first husband, James R. Saunders, prospected for uranium in Arizona, surveying the terrain from a low-flying airplane. She was an elementary teacher in Belvidere, N.J., for 20 years, retiring in 1980. Predeceased by husband Stafford Tonge, she leaves two nieces and a nephew.

40 **Mildred Falkenbury Fairchild**, 85, of Palmetto, Fla., on September 21, 2004. For three years she taught all eight grades in a one-room school in Fairfield, Vt., where her husband, George H.S. Fairchild '40, a fourth-generation farmer, was managing the family farms. Earning graduate credits at Johnson State, UVM, and Mankato State Univ., she taught for 19 years in St. Albans, Vt., where they lived until retiring to Florida. Preceded in death by son Donald, she leaves husband George; daughter Diane Fairchild; sons George, William, and John Fairchild; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

41 **Barbara Grow Grim**, 84, of North Andover, Mass., on November 7, 2004. She was a resident of Lincoln, Mass., from 1957 to 2000. For two years during World War II, she served as a WAVE officer. Early jobs included two years as wire editor on the Burlington (Vt.) *Daily News*, and working in advertising at D.C. Heath and John Hancock. After raising her family, she completed a library science certificate at Framingham State Univ. and was employed at the library of Concord-Carlisle High School, retiring in 1986. She leaves husband William Grim Jr., sons William and David Grim, daughter Sally Grim-Concheff, and four granddaughters.

43 **Frank M. Goldsmith**, 83, of Stamford, Conn., on September 9, 2004. A World War II veteran, he served in the Army Medical Corps in North Africa and Italy. He spent 12 years with Stein, Hall & Co., in the foreign trade and the chemical and commodities industry. In 1964, he joined high school classmate Oliver Quayle, setting up a leading political polling firm. After selling the firm in 1976, he assumed leadership positions in many community affairs in White Plains and in Westchester, N.Y. Survivors include wife Elizabeth (Hiller), daughter Judy Naden, sons Tony and Donald Goldsmith, and four grandchildren.

Kathryn Sempepos Silliman, 82, of Fredonia, N.Y., on October 16, 2004. With a master's from SUNY Fredonia, she taught French, Latin, German, and English at Fredonia High School from 1957 to 1986. The organizer and supervisor of four student exchanges with high schools in Germany, she enjoyed annual trips to the Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, Ontario, and she took part in 29 Elderhostels. She was also an active member of community organizations. Surviving are husband A. Cutler Silliman; daughter Sallie Silliman; sons Eugene, Keith, and Graham; eight grandchildren; and three step-grandchildren.

45 **William N. Margolis**, 80, of Clifton Park, N.Y., on September 29, 2004. He retired more than 30 years ago from the Fireman's Fund, where he had been an insurance investigator. He leaves wife Margaret (Wilcox) and a sister, Maxine Hirsch.

46 **Janet Clark Baker**, 79, of Haddonfield, N.J., on August 22, 2004. A 1946 graduate of the Univ. of Pa., she was employed as a legal secretary in the Commonwealths of Pennsylvania and Virginia legislatures and in private firms. Predeceased by husband Stuart G. Baker, she leaves daughters Sherryl Hughes and Holly Baker, and five grandchildren.

48 **Jeanne Epp Barksdale**, 77, of Athens, Ga., on May 3, 2004, after a lengthy illness. While raising her family, she ran the Adventure Program for disadvantaged children, worked in a neighborhood association, and was involved with a swimming program. She leaves her husband of 53 years, Hiram C. Barksdale; sons Hiram C. Barksdale Jr. and Addison A. Barksdale; daughters Beverly Mallon and Sally Kiney; and four grandchildren.

Margery Lehmann Stillman, 77, of Middlebury, Vt., on October 25, 2004, following an automobile accident. She met her husband, Allan W. Stillman, while attending the Bread Loaf School of English (M.A. '51). She taught high school English in Bergenfield (N.J.), Valley Stream (N.Y.), and Oceanside (N.Y.), retiring to Vermont in 1980. She served as a board member for the Women's Auxiliary of Porter Hospital, the Friends of Middlebury College Art Museum, and the Fern Lake Dunmore Association. She was a coordinator for the American Red Cross blood drive canteen volunteers, delivered for Meals on Wheels, volunteered at the Henry Sheldon Museum, and acted as a guardian ad litem for the Middlebury Family and Probate courts. She leaves her husband of 52 years, daughters Peggy Ann Truesdale and Amy Stillman Kulig '78, and four grandchildren.

50 **F. Dillon Baldwin**, 78, of Middlebury, Vt., on October 4, 2004. A Navy veteran (1944–1946), he attended both Middlebury College and UVM. He was employed by the U.S. Postal Service for 37 years, retiring in 1984. For the 17 years preceding 1965, he owned the Vermonters, a local dance orchestra. He was also a member of St. Mary's church choir. Survivors include wife Martha (Barnes); sons Patrick, Paul, and Brian Baldwin; daughters Jana Hamrell and Megan Rubman; and 11 grandchildren.

John J. Sowles, 76, of Colchester, Vt., on September 20, 2004, from Parkinson's disease and related complications. With graduate studies at UVM, he was a sales representative for Schering-Plough and Cleveland Cotton Products. His civic activities included Chittenden County Regional Planning, Colchester Fire District #2, Champlain Valley Water District, Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation, and Colchester Select Board. He was also active in the Masons. He leaves wife Barbara (Forbes), daughters Kimberly and Keirsten; sons Ken '80 (wife Marilyn White Sowles '79), Kelly, Kyle '89 (wife Julie Connolly Sowles '89), and Kurt; and five grandchildren. Deceased Middlebury relatives include mother Kathryn Rogers Sowles '22, aunt Madine Rogers Jackson '20, sister Kathryn Sowles Smith '48, and cousins Louise Norris Mears '18 and Lewis G. Allbee '36.

52 **Richard A. Eddy**, 73, of Savannah, Ga., on September 22, 2004. He served in the Marine Corps during the Korean War, remaining in the active Marine reserves and retiring as a major in 1984. After a 48-year career in advertising sales, he retired in 2002 from the Thomas Publishing Company. In 1997, he moved from Stonington, Conn., to Savannah, where he was active in Kiwanis, school mentoring, and golf. Survivors include wife Joyce (McLean), son Jeffrey, daughters Linda McLaughlin and Dawn Freeman, and three grandchildren.

54 **Evan R. Andersen**, 71, of Palos Verdes Estates, Calif., on February 13, 2004. After serving in the Army Counter Intelligence Corps, he worked for IBM in many locations around the country. Retiring from IBM in 1980, he and wife Jimi (Mackenroth) later purchased Jayne Products, formulating environmentally compliant cleaning products for industrial use. Retiring again in 1997, he and wife Jimi were volunteers and board members for H.E.L.P. (Healthcare and Elder Law Programs Corporation), helping seniors and their families meet aging-related legal and care challenges. He leaves wife Jimi, son Eric, and daughter Kristin.

William F. Fletcher, 73, of Osterville, Mass., on October 8, 2004. An Army veteran, he earned a master's in business administration from the Univ. of Santa Clara, Calif. In the computer field, he was a systems analyst and data processing manager for 15 years in San Francisco. For 25 years, he was a dealer in rare stamps as proprietor of Battle Green Stamp Company of Lexington, Mass. He was a member of the Cape Cod Chapter of the American Association of Individual Investors and the Cape Cod Philatelic Club. Predeceased by son

Andrew in 2001, he leaves wife Alma (Astley), son Mark Fletcher, and three grandchildren.

56 **Virgina Collins Emerson**, 70, of Wellesley, Mass., on September 17, 2004. With a master's in education from Boston State College, she taught for many years in the Weston (Mass.) Public Schools. In retirement, she and a friend started a newsletter to help older women looking for meaningful volunteer jobs. As a volunteer gallery instructor at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, she was a leader for school groups touring the collections. She was an avid gardener, reader, traveler, flutist, and raconteur. Survivors include husband Joseph D. Emerson, two brothers, and a sister.

Helen Johnson Kennedy, 67, of Colorado Springs, Colo., on November 9, 2002. She is survived by husband Jamieson D. Kennedy '55, son Jamieson E. Kennedy, and daughter Mary Kay.

Nancy Clemens Maneh, 70, of Sausalito, Calif., on July 21, 2004, of heart failure in Senegal, West Africa. She was an associate editor for the Harvard University Press for several years, then taught English at Colorado Rocky Mountain School, St. Timothy's School (Silver Spring, Md.), and Greenvale School (Great Neck, N.Y.). From 1979 to 1986, she was a director of the U.S. Tennis Association, managing many junior tournaments in the U.S. and Europe. A resident of Sausalito since 1985, she was a volunteer for several environmental organizations. In progress at the time of her death was a doctoral thesis on the unplanned significance of Jungian archetypes in colonial American literature. Survivors include husband Bubacarr Maneh, son David Allen, daughter Katherine Allen, and two granddaughters. Other Middlebury survivors include brother David H. Clemens '53, sister-in-law Carol Jennings Clemens '53, and niece Karen Clemens Dennis '83.

58 **M. Richmond Rowe**, 71, of Westborough, Mass., on September 24, 2004. He served with the Army for three years during the Korean Conflict. He spent his career in the insurance industry, most recently managing a district office for Massachusetts Mutual in Worcester. He leaves sons Dean W. Rowe and Bradford A. Rowe, three grandchildren, and brother Donald E. Rowe '52. Middlebury survivors include sister-in-law Virginia Reynolds Rowe '53 and nieces Cynthia Rowe Pelletier '78 and Jennifer Rowe Havlicek '92.

59 **John W. Hubbell Jr.**, 68, of Millbrook, N.Y., on November 2, 2004. He was a sales leader at Guernsey Realtor, known for sensitivity to land conservation and antique houses. Survivors include wife Gwynn (Hart), son Christopher, daughter Eliot, and three sisters.

Janet Moreau Levesley, 67, of East Grinstead, Sussex, England, on October 1, 2004. After working as a secretary for attorneys and engineers, she was an elementary school teacher, first in New Jersey and then at the U.S. Air Force base at Wethersfield, Sussex, England. In 1965, she married Michael P. Levesley and settled at her husband's ancestral home on a large working farm south of London. She was an active volunteer for her church and assisted in many charities. She sponsored various arts charities and orchestras, and was a patron of the London Philharmonic Orchestra. In addition to her husband, she leaves son Mark Levesley, daughter Christina Levesley Hoseason, and one granddaughter. Other Middlebury survivors include niece Catherine Thomas Langley '75, nephew John M. Thomas '77, cousin Mary Moreau Cowan '54, and sisters Dale Moreau Killinger '49, Anne Moreau Thomas '51, and Margaret Moreau Willett '54. Deceased Middlebury relatives include father Daniel H. Moreau '20, brother-in-law H. Seely Thomas Jr. '51, and cousins William Moreau '38 and John R. Moreau '51.

62 **Luigi R. Giardini**, 62, of New Rochelle, N.Y., on November 3, 2002. A professor of language at the College of St. Rose, he leaves son Peter and daughter Paula Giardini.

64 **Joan E. Martin**, 62, of Starksboro, Vt., on November 24, 2004, of lung cancer. After teaching for several years, she worked for the DeGoesbriand and Fletcher Allen hospitals for nearly 30 years. One of the first nationally certified poison information specialists in the country, she helped start the Vermont Poison Information Center. Survivors include her parents and a sister.

65 **Judy McCandliss Orr**, 60, of Redlands, Calif., on November 12, 2003. She had been battling breast cancer since 1980. She leaves husband Floyd R. Orr, daughters Catherine Traber and Gillian Gomulka, and son Stephen Traber.

69 **Susan Rohrbacher Gricus**, 57, of Linneus, Maine, on October 25, 2004. She was a teacher in Maine School Administrative District #70, where she also served as president of the teachers association. She was involved with ongoing curriculum, leadership, and school improvement development in the district. She also served on the board of trustees for Ricker College. Predeceased by husband David R. Gricus, survivors include son Justin Gricus, daughter Rebecca Gricus, two brothers, and three sisters.

75 **Peter B. Olsen**, 51, of Providence, R.I., on November 10, 2004, of leukemia. Born in Rome, he came to this country to attend Middlebury in 1971. With a law degree from Syracuse Univ. (1978), he began his legal career at a legal clinic in the office of the public defender before joining Reilly, Oliver, and Olsen in Wickford. After his leukemia diagnosis, he directed his energies to supporting blood drives, expanding the bank of marrow donors, and lobbying for stem cell research. Survivors include wife Leslie (Tobias), daughters Cathryn and Celia, and son Tobias Olsen.

01 **Peter V. Wall**, 25, of San Francisco, Calif., on October 30, 2004. He had been employed for two and a half years by Kaiser Permanente in the division of computer technology. During his college years, he and his father claimed the number-one ranking in New England (USTA) tennis for father-son doubles. He achieved elite status in bouldering, a unique technique of rock climbing. His love of learning extended to classical music and conducting styles, soccer, philosophy, and photography. He coauthored a paper for the national IBM WebSphere Conference in 2002. He is survived by parents Kenneth and Sonja Wall, brother Andrew, grandmothers Vivan Wall and Solveig Velde, and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Honorary Degree

Christopher Reeve, 52, of Bedford, N.Y., on October 10, 2004. His acting career included a long list of movies (including the four original Superman movies), a dozen TV movies, and about 150 plays. He also hosted or narrated numerous documentaries and TV specials, many of which involved interests of his such as aviation or stunt work. Paralyzed following a riding accident in 1995, he had become a powerful proponent of causes ranging from insurance reform for catastrophic injuries to advocacy for stem cell research. His foundation, the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation, formed in 1998, raised more than $46.5 million for spinal cord research. Last May, in one of his last public appearances, he and wife Dana Morosani Reeve '84 received honorary degrees at Middlebury and codelivered the commencement address. Speaking on the green behind Voter Hall, he said, in part, "I've learned by being literally paralyzed that, to a large extent, paralysis is a choice. We can either watch from the sidelines or actively participate. We can rationalize inaction by deciding that one voice or one vote doesn't matter, or we can make the choice that inaction is unacceptable. Either let self-doubt and feelings of inadequacy prevent us from realizing our full potential, or embrace the fact that when we turn our attention away from ourselves, our potential is limitless." He leaves wife Dana and their son, Will, as well as daughter Alexandra and son Matthew from a previous relationship. He is also survived by mother Barbara Johnson, father Franklin Reeve, and brother Jeffrey D. Johnson '83.

Staff

Herbert Billings, 93, of Ripton, Vt., on November 16, 2004. A member of the 25 Year Club, he worked for many years in the buildings and grounds department. His work at Middlebury was as a plumber, but he also worked at various times as a farmer and electrician. Often staying after hours until the job was done, he was a loving and trusted friend to colleagues, trustees, and students.

Language Schools

36 **Emma C. Donk**, 99, M.A. English, of Rochester, N.Y., on April 29, 2004. She taught in New York State and at the Beirut (Lebanon) Evangelical School for Girls.

37 **Sarita Hopkins Weeks**, 90, M.A. Italian, of Jamestown, N.Y., on October 2, 2004. She taught at Randolph Macon Women's College, Russell Sage College, and the Univ. of Wis.-Madison.

46 **Mildred P. Biddison**, 102, M.A. French, of Hockessin, Del., on May 22, 2004. She taught at Phillipsburg (N.J.) and Mt. Pleasant (Del.) high schools, retiring in 1969.

Margaret M. Casey, 96, M.A. English, of Silver Spring, Md., on August 12, 2004. She taught English at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School for 23 years.

50 **Earl S. Palmer Jr.**, 82, M.A. French, of East Greenwich, R.I., on October 8, 2004. A World War II Army veteran, he taught at North Kingstown High School for 25 years.

62 **Beverly Johnson DiNapoli**, 67, M.A. German (D.M.L. German '80), of Bedford, N.Y., on October 9, 2004. She is survived by husband Vincent DiNapoli (D.M.L. German '80).

66 **Richard G. Kauffman**, 75, M.A. German, of Grove City, Pa., on September 24, 2004. An Army veteran of the Korean Conflict, he taught German and photography at Grove City College for 20 years.

Sr. Nicholas Marie Zitz, OP, 78, M.A. Spanish '66, of Newburgh, N.Y., on October 18, 2004. She taught in New Jersey, New York, and Puerto Rico.

70 **George E. Bennett**, 64, M.A. English, of Caneadea, N.Y., on September 9, 2004. He retired in 2003 from Houghton College.

73 **Fr. Francis McKinney**, 96, M.A. Spanish, of the Third Order Regular of Saint Francis, on August 24, 2004. In Pennsylvania, he served on the faculties of St. Francis Prep School (Spring Grove) and of St. Francis Seminary and St. Francis Univ. (Loretto).

85 **Michael E. Kondrk**, 60, M.A. German, of Philadelphia, Pa., on January 10, 2004. He taught science in the Edison School district.

90 **Susan Yocom Wanner**, 67, M.A. English, of Burlington, Vt., on September 25, 2004. A teacher in several Burlington area schools, she wrote *On with the Story* (Boynton/Cook 1994) promoting the use of narrative as a teaching strategy with adolescents.

92 **Edith Sharpe Mason**, 73, M.A. English, of Lawrenceville, Va., on September 21, 2003. She taught English at Brunswick High School for many years.

00 **Erin M. Schafle**, 27, M.A. Spanish, of Ambler, Pa., on November 8, 2004.

IN MEMORIAM

Robert R. Churchill

November 19, 1946–November 14, 2004

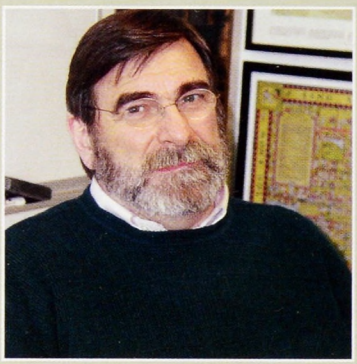
BOB CHURCHILL, William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of Geography, was a great inspiration to his students, his colleagues in the geography department, the College, and the profession at large. His legacy will continue through the achievements of his more than 1,600 students who are smarter, stronger, and more perceptive as a result of being taught by him. As Brendan Bechtel '03 remarks, capturing the sentiments of almost all of Bob's students, "Our accomplishments, our love for geography, our ability to contribute and make a difference, these are tributes to Bob and a testament to the power and impact of his teaching."

Earning his B.S in Earth Sciences at Northern Illinois University in 1969, Bob was promptly drafted into the Army. After serving as a chaplain's assistant in Berlin, West Germany, he earned an M.S in geography (Northern Illinois University) and a Ph.D. in geography (University of Iowa). Joining Middlebury's faculty in 1978, Bob became a major force behind the shaping of the geography department after its elimination and subsequent reincarnation in 1982. He chaired the department as a non-tenured member, hired others, and built it up to become one of the best departments on campus.

His love of maps, his keen interest in the representation of landscapes, and his rich visual imagination led Bob first to become proficient in manual cartography and then in Geographic Information Systems (GIS). He built one of the finest GIS/Cartography laboratories in the region and regularly advised other colleges on how to build a GIS program. He also consulted with Vermont communities on how to use GIS for their planning.

Trained as a geomorphologist, Bob taught an array of courses in physical geography and spent the better part of every afternoon exploring earth processes in the field with students. An unconventional teacher, he employed diverse methods. Justin Douglas '95 recalls that during a field trip in Introduction to Physical Geography, Bob demonstrated how to determine soil content or coarseness by rubbing dirt against his teeth.

Bob chose to spend almost three times as many hours per week in the classroom as most Middlebury faculty members, because teaching was what he truly enjoyed. Many students have remarked that Bob's classes were "story time" and therefore the best part of their day. But along with the fun, Bob was a tough grader and relished this reputation. Even though students suffered in his labs and in some cases felt that they had never worked so hard for a D, they still loved Bob's courses.



His expectations were so high that they "prompted all his students to elevate their work far beyond what they thought was possible," remarks Andrew Howard '05. This rigor has enabled his students to qualify for advanced GIS jobs ahead of people with many more years of experience.

Bob had a gift for making abstract, technologically challenging classes accessible to all students, even to those who were technophobes. He loved his students and cherished the long-lasting friendships that developed. On the first day of class he told students, "Don't call me Dr. Churchill. I don't know him. My name is Bob," recalls Bill McDavitt '92. He patiently devoted hours to helping students overcome their difficulties in his classes, and he often co-authored articles with students, a reflection of his commitment to teaching both in and out of the classroom.

His commitment to the advancement of geography beyond the college classroom was recognized by the National Geographic Society. Bob headed the Vermont Geographic Alliance, coordinated the Geography Bee for the State of Vermont, and was a regular consultant to the National Geographic Society and Princeton's Educational Testing Service. Bob's record of publication reflects his shift from physical geography to cartography and GIS. His early publications about slope morphology and runoff appeared in leading geography journals, and his later publications found homes in prestigious journals like *Cartographica* and *Cartographic Perspectives*. He was a recipient of grants from the National Science Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Bob is survived by his wife of 25 years, Kimberly Jones; a daughter, Rachel Jones (16); a son, Callahan Churchill (12); his sister, Roberta Churchill; and his mother, Marjorie Churchill.

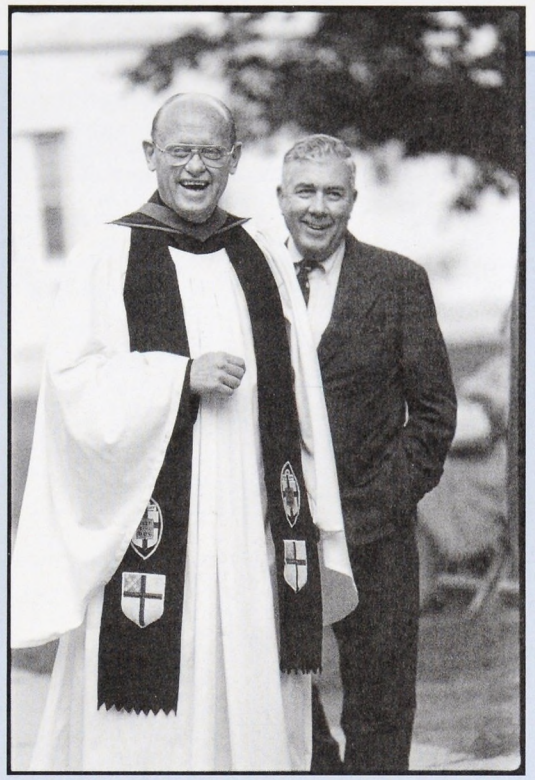
Memories of Bob are being compiled into a book. If you would like to share your stories and memories, please send them to mayer@middlebury.edu or to the Geography Department, BIH 314.

—Tamar Mayer, Professor of Geography

IN MEMORIAM

Charles P. Scott, Chaplain Emeritus

September 12, 1920–October 10, 2004



Chaplain Scott with Vice President Emeritus Walter Brooker '37

CHARLES P. SCOTT RETIRED IN 1986 from the chaplaincy at Middlebury College as the most senior college or university chaplain in the country. That year he wrote a brief letter that was published on the back page of the *Middlebury Magazine*. In part, he wrote: "Where else in our society do warm friendships between young and old have such a good chance to flower but at a place like Middlebury?" Pastor, mentor, Middlebury icon, and warmest of friends linking generations of students, faculty, and staff, Chaplain Scott died this fall at the age of 84.

As an undergraduate at Ohio State he majored in bacteriology and chemistry and later worked for the university as a lab technician. After his brother Wayne, a navigator on a B-24, was killed in January 1945, Charlie began to have second thoughts about a career in the biological sciences and enrolled in Princeton Theological Seminary, where he received his Bachelor of Divinity degree. After serving as a Presbyterian minister for two years, he joined the Middlebury faculty in 1951 as an instructor in religion and as College chaplain. Realizing that the study of religion would become as important for many students as the observance, he founded the Department of Religion at Middlebury, serving as its first and, for many years, its only faculty member.

Ordained in the Episcopal Church in 1954, Chaplain Scott later did graduate work at Harvard and Mansfield College at Oxford. A respected scholar, teacher, and preacher, he was the recipient of numerous academic honors, including a Danforth Foundation study grant, a field archaeology grant from Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem, and the Kellogg Lectureship at Episcopal Theological School. Chaplain Scott was a guest preacher at numerous colleges, universities, and schools, and served as president of the National Association of College and University Chaplains in the late 1960s. He received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Middlebury College in 1992.

On October 13, 2004, several hundred current and former students, campus colleagues, friends, family, and townsfolk gathered in Mead Chapel to celebrate Charlie's life, and to bid farewell. In his homily, Professor of Religion Larry Yarbrough said, "We all have stories to tell and we are longing to tell them." Those of us who spoke were only mildly surprised that, working independently, we had each arrived at the same themes in our memories and tributes. What did we emphasize?

First and foremost we noticed that Chaplain Scott had the ability to make hundreds of people, across several generations, feel as though they were one of his four or five closest friends. And oddly enough, we were: all of us. He had that way. Everything—his manner, his hugs, his concentration, his memory—everything about him showed us that he knew us and genuinely cared for each of us. He was, quite remarkably, something of a walking, talking, alumni database. He must have sometimes forgotten a name or a face, but not that we ever saw.

He was bigger than life. He was a commanding presence at the front of the sanctuary or the lecture hall. He was a scholar, teacher, and preacher who made the Bible come to life. As Professor Yarbrough mentioned, Charlie was steeped in the study of scripture. He wrestled with the prophets and Paul. He loved the give and take of theological debate and especially loved to engage with the great texts and minds of the 20th century: Barth, Bonhoeffer, Buber, Bultmann, Niebuhr, and Tillich. His lifelong study was rivaled only by his passion for classical music.

Finally, during that time of remembrance and tribute, we spoke of his voice, his commanding presence, and his faith. In all his everyday human interactions he embodied his faith in a loving and reconciling God. By embracing the confused and the doubters, the self-righteous and silly, the angry and the hurting, the weak and the strong, Charlie's way in the world taught us more than any lecture could about the kind of God he worshiped. He taught us by example to love our neighbors as our self.

Recently I spoke on the phone with Chaplain Scott's longtime friend and colleague, the Reverend William Sloan Coffin, former chaplain of Yale University and longtime pastor of Riverside Church in New York. Bill said that when he thinks of Charlie Scott he is reminded of words from Proverbs 17:22. "A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a downcast spirit dries up the bones." He said, "With Charlie, we all were a bunch of damp bones—never downcast and dry."

We are grateful that the huge cheerful heart—buried under all those folds of liturgical garb—was a part of our lives. For putting the right man in the right place in the right time, thanks be to God.

Chaplain Scott is survived by his wife, Tana Sterrett Scott '65, by five children, and by five grandchildren. Middlebury relatives include sons Wayne '71 and Charlie Jr. '77, as well as grandson Matthew Hershenson '07.

Memories of and tributes to Chaplain Scott may be viewed at *web.middlebury.edu/offices/chaplain/memories_chaplain_scott/*. Please share the stories you are longing to tell.

—Chaplain Laurel Macauley Jordan '79

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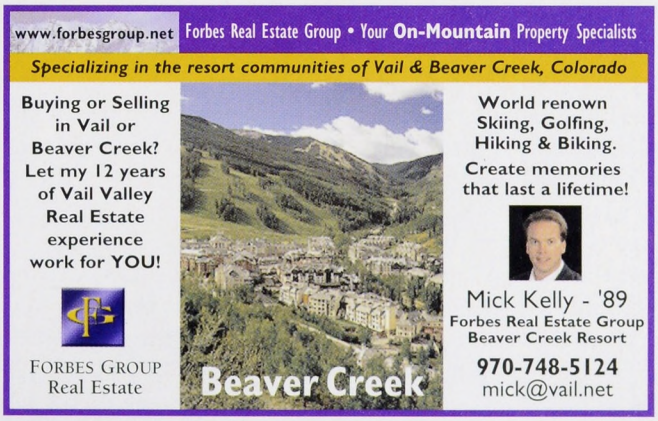
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The Sound of Silence

Shaken after covering the war in the Balkans, a writer makes a journey of discovery.

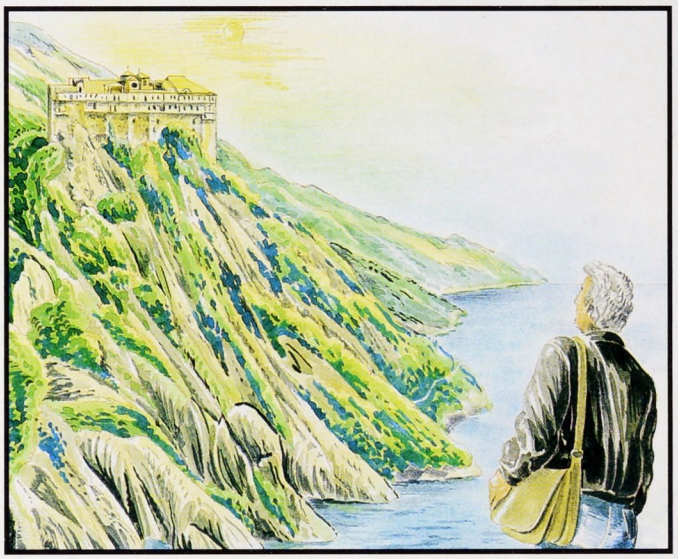
By Christopher Merrill '79

I made a Lenten pilgrimage to Athos, the Virgin Mother's Holy Mountain. A late snow had blanketed the region two days before I set out, and on the bus ride from Thessaloniki, I inwardly shivered at the patches of white edging the fields, the snowbound mountains thick with clouds.

In the gray dawn, the bus wended its way through villages and towns, making brief stops to leave bundles of newspapers outside kiosks and cafés. The monk across the aisle from me dozed off in the stuffy air, his beard resting on his chest.

At the sight of the Aegean, calm and lead-colored, a memory surfaced: I was lying on a hospital gurney, awaiting exploratory surgery, buoyant from the effects of a painkiller. I remembered watching the clock on the wall, cherishing its slow progress, wishing to put off for as long as possible the moment when the orderly came to wheel me into the operating room. The bus sped around a corner. The monk laid his head back against his seat. It occurred to me that my journey into faith might prove to be painful.

The sun was out by the time we arrived at the fishing village of Ouranoupolis, the jumping-off point for pilgrimages to Mount Athos. But the crowd at the administrative center inspired new fears: that I would be denied a permit for one of the ten places allotted each day to foreigners; that the ferry down the coast to Daphne—the only way, in winter, onto the easternmost of the three fingerlike peninsulas reaching into the sea—would leave without me.



I was last in line, and I pictured myself having to return to Thessaloniki to secure another set of documents with which to enter the theocratic state. Ahead of me stood an old man in sandals, a crazed, rank-smelling German with a white beard and ponytail. He was muttering to himself when the policeman behind the counter asked him to declare his faith. Bewildered, he looked to his left and right before barking, "Lutheran." Then he shuffled off with his *diamonitirion*—a permit good for four days on the Holy Mountain. Soon, I had one, too.

Monks, laborers, and pilgrims boarded the ferry, many choosing to stay outside, in a cold wind, for the duration of the two-hour journey. I climbed to the top level and stood near the forward railing. How often had I imagined this moment! Mount Athos has been a beacon for me during my travels through the war zones of the former Yugoslavia, a distant light I dreamed of following away from the sea of hatred I was charting.

The suffering and carnage had darkened my outlook, and just before flying abroad I had sent my literary agent a new book about the war, the writing of which left me exhausted. I prayed that a walk around the peninsula that forms the spiritual heart of the Eastern Orthodox Church would restore me. In this monastic republic, which for more than a millennium has been a center for contemplative life, I hoped not only to witness ancient rituals and ways of living, but also to experience, as the author of Ecclesiastes wrote, "a time to keep silence."

The surrounding hills were thick with trees, in sharp contrast to the fields, pastures, and eroded slopes of the mainland. Spared the blight of clear-cutting, which has left Greece with Europe's lowest percentage of forested land, Athos is rich in chestnut and fir and holly oak—an ecological haven, 480 kilometers square, interspersed with monastic settlements ringed by terraced gardens, olive groves, and vineyards.

A place apart, a poet said.

Christopher Merrill '79 is an award-winning poet, literary critic, and journalist, whose books have been translated into 16 languages.

This essay is excerpted from Things of the Hidden God: Journey to the Holy Mountain *by Christopher Merrill. Copyright © Christopher Merrill, 2005. Published by arrangement with the Random House Publishing Group.*

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